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THE TIMES

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20p

THE TIMES Tomorrow

Up, up and away
In Part 2 of *Saturday's* Great British Summer series, Ronald Faux discovers the delights of ballooning.

Key to Keynes
Robert Skidelsky considers the economic theories of John Maynard Keynes on the centenary of his birth.

US tests on cruise suspended

The US has temporarily suspended tests on its air-launched cruise missile to examine problems which developed during two recent launches. The Pentagon said deployment policy would not be affected.

Meanwhile Nato defence ministers meeting in Brussels reaffirmed their "twin-track" decision to deploy American nuclear weapons and simultaneously negotiate arms control with the Soviet Union Page 6

Big North Sea investment

A consortium led by Marathon Oil has committed itself to spending up to £1,700m on opening up its second North Sea field. The project will secure 5,000 jobs in the oil industry Page 17



Piggott's double

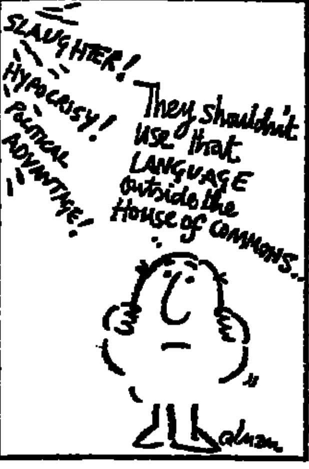
Lester Piggott back in the winner's enclosure on Be My Native in yesterday's Coronation Cup at Epsom, following his resounding Derby victory on Teenoso. Michael Seely's tribute Page 24

Mikardo arrest

Mr Ian Mikardo, Labour candidate for Bow and Poplar, has been charged with obstructing the highway outside Bow Road Underground station, where he was canvassing yesterday in a Mini car.

200 arrested

A further 200 people were arrested on the third day of the blockade of the US Air Force base at Upper Heyford, Oxfordshire, bringing the total of arrests to 500



The Times

We regret that, because of production difficulties, some editions of *The Times* today have appeared with a curtailed service of news.

Steel jubilant at six-point gain for SDP-Liberals

● **Conservative and Labour anxiety deepened as latest opinion polls showed increased support for the SDP-Liberal Alliance**

● **Mr Foot and Mr Benn joined forces to attack the opinion polls, the press and the Alliance .**

● **Labour campaign managers were alarmed, at Mr Healey's accusation over the Falklands that Mrs Thatcher "glories in slaughter"**

● **Mrs Sara Jones, the widow of Col H Jones, VC, said Mr Healey's conduct was "desplicable and cheap"**

Tory and Labour worry deepens as Alliance gains

By Anthony Bevins and George Clark

Senior Conservative and Labour sources are concerned that the opinion polls will be showing a tie between Labour and the Social Democratic Party-Liberal Alliance before polling takes place next Thursday.

The latest opinion polls are showing a clear pattern in favour of the Alliance. Thames Television's Harris poll, issued last night, showed the Conservatives on 46 per cent, Labour at 28 per cent and the Alliance on 24 per cent. Other polls, by Gallup for *The Daily Telegraph* and Marpaln for *The Guardian*, also show an increase in Alliance support.

Those results, with fieldwork carried out last Tuesday and Wednesday, gave the Alliance a six-point advance, compared with a 2 per cent all for the Conservatives, and a 5 per cent fall for Labour, compared with last week's poll for Thames Television.

If that trend continued, and all polls poublished in the last week show a steady swing towards the Alliance, with a greater proportion of votes moving from Labour than from the Conservatives then it is entirely possible that the Alliance could have overtaken Labour by polling day.

Labour leaders are worried that if that position was reached, then the party's fragile credibility could collapse completely.

Certainly the Alliance has proved that it is capable of mustering popular support in the 30 per cent region. On present form, they would move to that point at Labour's expense.

But there is equally strong anxiety among Conservaive Aprty managers. They fear that if the Alliance does run second in last-minutes eve-of-poll polls, while the Conservatives maintain a lead of more than 15 per cnet, then marginal, Conservatives and the floating voters might be tempted to damp down a landslide Conservative victory by plumping for the Alliance alternative.

Those fears were last night reflected by Sir Keith Joseph, the Secretary of State for Education and Science, who said in Luxembourg: "These last days are very nerve-racking. It still could crumble. Anything could happen – and probably will."

At their morning press conference yesterday, Labour leaders had tried to dismiss the Alliance's prospects.

Claims made by the Alliance that they were overhauling Labour in terms of electoral popularity were based on polls that lacked integrity, Mr Roy Hattersley, the Shadow Home Secretary, said.

Continued on back page, col 7

LATEST OPINION POLLS

Sample taken on May 25–30 by Gallup For The Daily Telegraph	
Conservatives	47.5%
Labour	28%
Alliance	23%
Others	1.5%

Sample taken by Marpian for the Guardian	
Conservatives	67%
Labour	30%
Alliance	22%
Others	1%

Sample taken May 11/12 by Harris for TV Eye	
Conservatives	46%
Labour	28%
Alliance	24%
Others	2%



Music to his ears: Mr Steel discussing opinion polls in London yesterday.

Healey regrets his 'slaughter' attack

By Arthur Osman

Mr Denis Healey withdrew the accusation that Mrs Margaret Thatcher had "gloried in slaughter" when he appeared on BBC television's *Question Time* in Birmingham last night.

He was asked by Sir Robin Day if he regretted using the phrase or wished to withdraw it, and he said: "I do regret using the word 'slaughter'. I think I should have said the word 'conflict'. When I used the word 'slaughter', it was not a prepared remark. I was thinking of the rather surprising remarks in front of the television cameras outside 10 Downing Street, and the shout of 'rejoice, rejoice'.

"What I really meant was her appetite for conflict, which in some ways is an admirable thing in domestic politics, but a very, very dangerous thing in international affairs.

Mr Cecil Parkinson, chairman of the Conservative Party, said to the television audience: "Of course, I welcome it so far as it goes; but I must say he has been laundering his remarks extremely carefully over the last 24 hours, and nobody reading what he said last night would have drawn the conclusion that he is trying to point to today.

Mr Parkinson said that Mr Healey had accused the Conservative Party of electioneering on the Falklands conflict; we did not bring it into the election - he did and brought it in in contemptible fashion."

Mr Healey said in a late-night speech in Birmingham on Wednesday that the Prime Minister "glories in slaughter". She wrapped herself in the Union Jack and exploited the sacrifices of servicemen during the Falklands conflict for party advantage, while lending money to Buenos Aires so that the Argentines could buy more weapons to kill more British servicemen. "That is stupefying hypocrisy", he said.

The reaction was angry and graphic from Labour's Conservative and Alliance opponents.

The Prime Minister said: "I think it has gone beyond all bounds of public or political decency, and I think it has given offence to many, many people in this country."

Mr Francis Pym, the Foreign Secretary, said: "Mr Healey's speech contained the most abusive, disgraceful and unforgivable allegations I have ever heard in any election."

Dr David Owen, for the Alliance, said: "To talk about Mrs Thatcher glorying in the slaughter is to move from the gutter to the politics of the abbatoir." Mr David Steel, the Liberal leader, said: "I think they have taken leave of their senses. The attack last night by Mr Healey was qute extraordinary. I suppose it just demonstrated the panic in the Labour ranks. The desperation has set in."

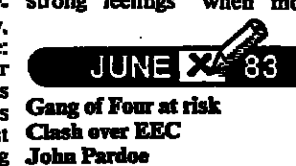
Mr Michael Foot was less than fulsome in his comments. He said that it gave "rise to strong feelings" when money was being loaned to a regime which Mrs Thatcher had so strongly denounced. Conservatives, too, had protested at the hypocrisy of it.

Labour sources said last night that some senior party figures were both angry and bitter that Mr Healey should have so deftly deflected the Labour campaign from its central theme of unemployment, and it was pointed out that this was not the first time. Mr Healey had provoked the public debate and controversy over the party's Polaris "problem".

But he was unrepentant yesterday. He said over breakfast in Birmingham: "If it is slanderous, then she'll sue me. I don't fear th- I don't fear anything."

Mr Healey also yesterday joined Mr Neil Kinnock in demanding an inquiry into the

Continued on back page, col 3



Foot and Benn counterblast

From David Felton, Bristol

Mr Michael Foot yesterday joined forces with Mr Wedgwood Benn to launch a full-pronged attack against the opinion polls, the press and the Alliance as a counter to the argument that Labour's campaign had run out of steam.

Both maintained that the polls were painting a false picture of Labour support and Mr Foot referred to "cooked" polls which made "absolutely ridiculous" predictions that the Alliance could overtake Labour.

Mr Foot believed the Alliance was not a threat to Labour, "although they like to pretend they are. The evidence as I tour north, south, east and west is that many more people are backing our campaign than in many elections".

The Labour leader was paying a whistle-stop visit to Bristol in support of party candidates in the city, including Mr Benn, who is contesting the marginal Bristol East constituency.

Mr Foot went on to his home town of Plymouth, where he made a strong attack on Dr David Owen, the Social Democratic Party's foreign affairs spokesman, who is defending the Devonport constituency. That followed a prediction by Mr Benn that Dr Owen would lose and switch to the Conservatives.

Mr Benn, whose clashes in the past with Mr Foot appeared to have been forgotten yesterday, also said: "Nobody trusts turncoats and Mr Jenkins is a turncoat."

He attacked newspapers for asking questions which had no relevance

He accused *The Times* of trying to "raise a scare" about pension funds being at risk if Labour won power.

Mr Foot's vitriol was likewise reserved for the polls and the newspapers. The suggestion that the Alliance was catching Labour was "nonsense. It is not even proved by their own cooked polls".

Hero's widow condemns speech

Mrs Sara Jones, widow of Colonel "H", VC, said yesterday that Mr Denis Healey's conduct in speaking about the Falklands conflict was "despicable and cheap".

She said: "For many of us it is just a year since our loved ones died in the Falklands war and for Mr Healey to try to use something like this, at a time like this, to make a political point really stinks.

"It was extremely hurtful for a lot of people for him to say what he did and it was totally unnecessary." But she said she did not blame the Labour Party.

"Some families like my own have just had their anniversary and others will come over the next couple of weeks. This is just opening up the wound when people are desperately trying to get over their loss," she said.

"When politicians of Mr Healey's standing have to use people in this way it brings electioneering to unknown depths."

To suggest Mrs Thatcher was glorying in slaughter was "making her out to be an absolute ogre and I do not believe she is that".

Mrs Jones added: "If this is the way Mr Healey wants to play then I really think he should get out of politics and into something else . . . Why is it that politicians don't ever think about people's feelings but just about scoring political points?"

● Mrs Jill Swallow, whose son Andrew died when HMS Sheffied was lost in the Falklands attacked Mr Healey for being "absolutely wrong", in criticizing Mrs Thatcher.

She said: "I was annoyed by his outburst because Mrs Thatcher was right in the action she took and I agreed with her."

● Professor Hugh Tinker, the father Lt David Tinker who was killed in the Falklands, said he was "amazed" that Mr Healey had introduced the issue at this stage of the election the Press Association reports.

Professor Tinker, whose son's letters home have been published, said: "To just throw it in and make it a personal issue of Mrs Thatcher's own attutude does not seem to me to be a worthy way of introducing the subject into the election.

Revolt against Arafat grows

From Robert Fisk, Beirut

Mr Yassir Arafat's empire within the Palestine Liberation Organization moved further towards disintegration yesterday when two of the main guerrilla groups based in Damascus implicityly condemned his rule.

The move came less than 24 hours after his senior military commander in the Lebanese Bekaa Valley defected to the side of the Palestinian mutineers.

As Colonel Gaddafi of Libya offered to train and finance "volunteers" to fight the Israelis in Lebanon – men who would presumably be led by Mr Arafat's detractors in the Fatah guerrilla nomement – Mr Arafat held an emergency meeting of his Fatah central committee yesterday in a desperate attempt to prevent the mutiny infecting further guerrilla units.

In a joint statement issued in Damascus last night, the pro-Moscow Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine and the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine of Dr Georgi Habbash, supported demands by the mutineers for "democratic reform" within the PLO.

In an obvious criticism of Mr Arafat, the two groups demanded an end to the "bureaucratic, bourgeois role" of the PLO leadership.

On Wednesday night, Mr Moussa Awad, the Fatah commander in the Bekaa Valley, said that he had joined the mutiny against Mr Arafat, taking 10,000 guerrillas with him. The figure was an exaggeration but the dissenters can be numbered in their hundereds.

Journalists taken to meet Mr Awad near the city of Baalbek Found his guerrillas guarding the mountain road into the Bekaa from Syria with anti-aircraft positions and machine-guns. Mr Awad called for increased cooperation with Syria and the Soviet Union, an ominous suggestion now that Moscow is supporting Syria's refusal to leave Lebanon.

Mr Arafat's won officials have been trying to rent office space in the port area of the nortern Levbanese city of Tripoli. That had naturally raised suspicions that PLO officers loyal ot Mr Arafat intend to turn the city, which contains 70,000 Palestian civilians and Guerrillas, into a new headquarters.

Reports form Damascus yesterday suggested that the PLO chairman had applied to transfer funds form Syrian to Tripoli bands in preparation for such a move.

The Syrians, whom Mr Arafat and his closest colleagues blame for the mutiny, do not control the centre of Tripoli, where local Sunni Muslim nationalists have been engaged in sporadic battles against Syrian troops with the PLO's tacit support.

Ravenscraig jobs fears revived

By Rupert Morris

Fears for 4,000 jobs at British Steel's lossmaking plant at Ravenscraig in Scotland were revived yesterday in the light of some equivocal remarks by Mr George Younger, Secretary of State for Scotland.

Mr Younger, who had previously declined to comment on a plan devised by Mr Ian MacGregor, BSC chairman, to link Ravenscraig with a steelworks in the US, said yesterday it was unlikely to go ahead.

The plan, which would involve between 1,200 and 2,500 job losses at Ravenscraig, is regarded by Mr MacGregor as essential to preserve the plant's long term future. It would also involve up to 3,000 job losses in the US, and is strongly opposed by unions is both countries.

Mr Younger stressed yesterday that no firm plans had been put before ministers. He said: "The uncertainty seems to me to be related to the fact that the British Government is going to have to put money into a plant concerned with the US Steel Corporation.

"There are difficult problems with tariffs. The US has a record of introducing tariffs against things they do not like coming into America. It seems to me fairly unlikely it will ever be possible to put together such a deal."

● **NEW YORK:** Mr Younger's comments surprised congressional and industry officials who noted that only last week Mr David Roderick, the chairman of US Steel, indicated that talks between the two companies were going well

P&O rejects bid by Trafalgar

By Jonathan Clare

The £300m battle for control of P & O, Britain's largest shipping company, began in earnest last night.

Trafalgar House, which owns the QE2 and the Ritz Hotel, wants to add P & O's construction business and 74-ship fleet to its own 22 ships, construction and property empire.

Mr Nigel Broackes, the Trafalgar chairman, who started as a property developer more than 20 years ago, said: "It would fit like a glove."

P & O has been going through rough seas recently with profits last year down 18 per cent and difficult trading forecast this year. But the group has rejected Trafalgar's bid as "derisory".

Mr Oliver Brooks, P & O's managing director said: "We now have confirmation that Trafalar's bid terms are way below what we are worth".

Trafalar asys it believe's P & O's problems are largely attributable to poor management and ill-timed strategic decisions.

Mr Broackes said Trafalgar would get better profits out of P & O with a mixture of economies of scale on overheads, and advertising and management skills.

The Office of Fair Trading is considering whether the bid should be recommended for reference to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission. A decision should be made within three weeks.

Mr Broackes said that if the bid was referred he would be inclined to cooperate with what is likely to be a six-month inquiry.

Business news, page 17

FINANCIAL TIMES

Pay talks reach deadlock

The dispute at the *Financial Times* stopped its publication for the third day in succession yesterday after print workers refused the managememt's condition of an immediate return to work before pay talks would be resumed.

A stoppage by about 100 composing room staff, members of the National Graphical Association, yesterday caused the loss of the 50,000 copies of the European edition, as well as the 200,000 British print run. Both the TUC and ACAS, the arbitration and conciliation service, have been notified but no new peace moves have come from either side.

Mr Alan Hare, chairman of the newspaper, declined to comment on a suggestion that protective notices might soon be issued to staff. "We see no point in resuming direct negotiations until such time as we have a restoration of normal working," he said. Mr Bryn Griffiths, general president of the NGA, said: "The next move must come from management."

The dispute is over a new NGA claim for a pay rise from £304 to £330 a week.

Duke calls for military degrees

By Henry Stanhope
Diplomatic Correspondent

The Duke of Edinburgh yesterday called for degree courses in military science, which would give serviceman their own professional qualification, like doctors and lawyers.

Wars and their consequences had probably had more influence on the destiny of mankind than any other kind of human activity, he told the Royal United Services Institute (RUSI) in London.

Pointing to the way in which the Soviet Union had drastically changed the lives of millions of people in its satellite countries and to events in Afghanistan, he said that a very high standard in the defence professions was "vital for the well-being of every profession".

Some of the most influential men who has ever lived had been military geniuses, like Julius Caesar, Alexander the Great, William the Conqueror, Charlemagne, Frederick the Great, Wellington, Washington and Mountbatten.

"The idea that their profession is somehow not comparable with law, engineering and medicine or that it should rank below Anglo-Saxon poetry, business studies or the obscure sociological subjects so popular in most universities, strikes me as entirely ludicrous."

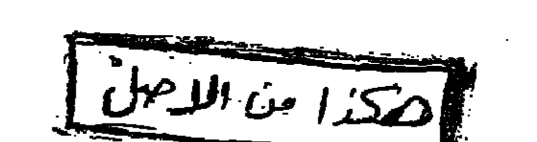
The Duke suggested that a degree course should cover: the organization of war, including the history of warfare and the organization of the Ministry of Defence; defence policy, including an assessment of nuclear and other "nasty" weapons, the allocation of resources, deterrence theory, weapons procurement, terrorism and the study of treaty organiztions; logistics, including communications, intelligence, training and the defence industries; and deployment, including international relations, treaties, peacekeeping and propaganda.

"Sandwich" courses could be provided as an alternative to full-time three-year studies, with officers later going on to take post-graduate degrees

He further proposed that the RUSI itself should become an "agent" for the Ministry of Defence by helping to choose lecturers

"The current public debate about the deployment of nuclear weapons, the disarmament conference, the growing complexity of military weapons, equipment, the massive and continuing build-up of the Soviet military arsenal and the well-known Marxist dedication to the destruction of the so-called capitalist-imperialist nations by any means, suggests that the whole subject of military science is well worth much closer study."

"Where better to start than with the young gentlemen who will have responsibility in the not too distant future for the defence of this realm and the Western alliance", he said.


مكبرا من الاصل

Synod to look at church remarriage for divorcees

By Robert Nowell

A procedure that would allow the marriage in church of divorced persons, hitherto officially forbidden in the Church of England, is to be brought before the General Synod when it meets in York next month.

It results from a resolution passed by the synod the last time it met in York. In July, 1981, it agreed that there were circumstances in which a divorced person might be married in church during the lifetime of a former partner, and asked the standing committee to provide it with a range of procedures for such cases.

In its report, published today, the standing committee considered seven procedures, ranging from a nullity procedure on the lines of Roman Catholic canon law to leaving matters to the discretion of the parish priest.

Its preferred procedure among the seven would involve the granting of a dispensation by a bishop from "the strict rules which normally attend marriage in church".

A couple would first approach their parish priest. He would complete an application form for submission to the bishop on their behalf, which would include his assessment of the situation and also a declaration signed by the couple and stating their understanding and acceptance of marriage as affirmed by the church.

The bishop would refer each case to an interdiocesan panel of advisers, and on the basis of their advice and the data on the application form would then decide whether to grant the dispensation. There would be no appeal against his decision.

The standing committee would envisage only seven or eight panels to cover the Church of England's 44 dioceses.

That scheme represents a compromise which it is hoped will unite the divergent groups within the Church of England, whose disagreement has so far prevented any solution to the growing problem of divorced Anglicans entering a second marriage.

It could be used to operate something like a nullity procedure. The dispensation would be granted only if the church authorities felt that the first marriage could be regarded as null, at least on a liberal interpretation of the kind of criteria applied in the Roman Catholic Church's marriage tribunal.

Alternatively, it could be used for the kind of premarriage inquiry used by the Methodist and United Reformed churches before an agreement is made to the marriage of divorced people, of whom many are Anglicans.

Under the Church of England's present discipline, while a divorced person cannot be married in church, he or she can be readmitted to Communion.

Marriage and the Standing Committee's Task, (CIO publishing, £1.25).

Penny Perrick, page 13

Council reconsiders blacks-only loans

From Arthur Osman, Birmingham

West Midlands County Council is rethinking its proposed £200,000 scheme to give loans to coloured businessmen only.

Mr Francis Ddeutsch, senior legal adviser to the Commission for Racial Equality, said in London yesterday: "There are ways in which the scheme can be freed of any ground of complaint. This would involve taking out the specification for blacks only."

He said a possible solution was that it should operate in areas of high unemployment. It could also have personal or environmental criteria "which can encompass whites but still meet the exceptional hardship of the black community".

The council's propsal last month that only coloured businessmen would qualify for loans of up to £10,000 was attacked as discriminatory. So far up to a hundred applications have been received.

Mr Geoffrey Edge, chairman of the county's economic development committee, said: "We believe in positive discrimination because black people are disadvantaged."

Yesterday an official said the scheme was in limbo while legal questions were resolved. No sifting work had been done. He added: "The politics of the thing had meant it is better if the scheme does not gain any more publicity until after the election. We are keeping a low profile because the problem is that anything we do on this front at the moment gets high media coverage. We prefer to work quietly behind the scenes, get it organized and the legalities sorted out."

He said there were big policy implications on how it should proceed. The commission has said it was not possible under the Race Relations Act to implement a policy aimed at one particular group. There were, however, differing legal opinions. Two main questions faced the council: What was the legal advice on existing legislation and was that legislation designed at the time

Common land in dispute

By Hugh Clayton, Environment Correspondent

The rights of medieval cottagers to feed their pigs lie behind a dispute about where modern householders can have picnics and exercise their dogs. It centres on common land, which, in spite of its name, is often privately owned.

The Country Landowners' Association said yesterday that many farmers opposed unrestricted access to common land because it might interfere with grazing and shooting. The Ramblers' Association said that such access was long overdue.

Although some urban commons like Wimbledon Common in London have unrestricted access, most of more than a million acres of common land in Britain are restricted. The precise status of common land is still being officially unravelled after 23 years.

Many commons date from obscure medieval awards by lords of the manor of particular rights to their tenants. They include rights of pasture, fishing, gathering of fuel, and turning out pigs to feed on acorns from the landlord's trees. Ramblers believe that such rights translated into modern terms mean access for recreation.

Miss Margaret Parrish, legal adviser to the Country Landowners' Association, said at a conference of the Open Spaces Society in London that many of its members were "emphatically against the universal right of public access to all common land." The association favoured local authority boards to fix restricted access for each piece of common land on its merits.

Mr Alan Mattingly, secretary of the Ramblers' Association, called for a law implementing a royal commission recommendation of 1958 that commons in England and Wales should be "open to the public as of right."

A pageant of WI members displays almost 70 years of campaigning. (Photograph: John Voos).

Action call on school intruders

From Richard Garner of *The Times Educational supplement*, Harrogate.

Schools in inner-city areas will have to have regular security patrols within five years if action is not taken against intruders, it was claimed at the annual conference of the National Association of Head Teachers in Harrogate yesterday.

Mr Frank Thorn, national council member of Inner London and headmaster of Hydebarn School, Balham, said: "I don't want to see it and I am sure none of you want it but I can see it happening nevertheless." He said it was no accident that the two speakers on the subject of intruders both came from deprived inner-city areas.

Mr Peter Parry, headmaster of Ranworth Square School, Liverpool, said there were many horrific stories of intruders "bent on violence coming into school to cause physical harm to the head or teachers".

The conference decided to press local education authorities to use new powers under the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1982, to take court action

The Bishop of Liverpool the Right Rev David Sheppard, told the association's annual dinner last night that young people were regarding the general election debate about unemployment as "cynicism of a distinctly high order".

He said reducing unemployment by a million would do "little or nothing for an area like Merseyside" because most of the jobs would appear in more affluent areas. Youth unemployment in Croxteth was 95 per cent now, he said.

● The head teacher whose school was the subject of a BBC television documentary series about comprehensive education was condemned yesterday for calling independent school teachers "educational prostitutes".

Mr David Hart, general secretary of the association, which has 22,500 members, told the conference that the series about Kingswood School in Corby, Northamptonshire, had "significantly damaged the cause of comprehensive education".

He added of the remarks made by Mr Brian Tyler, the school's headmaster: "The extreme and intemperate language he used about our colleagues in the independent sector will serve only to antagonize yet more of the uncommitted parents and others who genuinely wish to see the maintained sector thrive."

Mr Tyler, who is a member of the rival Secondary Heads Association, with which the National Association of Head Teachers is hoping to merge, said: "I am not on the extreme fringe and I am not in favour of abolishing public schools. I cannot understand why David Hart is doing this."

Mix-up confirmed after records check

Mothers raised wrong babies

By Ronald Faux

A couple celebrate their golden wedding anniversary today, 47 years after a nursing home mix-up resulted in them taking home the wrong baby.

Mrs Margaret Wheeler and her husband, Charles, brought up the child as their own inspite of discovering the mistake.

Among those at the celebrations will be their real daughter, and Mrs Blanche Rylatt, the mother who took home their baby and brought her up.

The family tangle began in a Nottingham nursing home in 1936 when Mrs Wheeler and Mrs Rylatt shared the same ward. Both gave birth to daughters. Mrs Wheeler to a full-term healthy baby and Mrs Rylatt to a child who was six months premature.

Both suspected something was wrong, particularly Mrs Wheeler, when she was presented with a baby covered in body down, a symptom of premature birth.

"I remember pointing it out to nursing staff, but they pooh-poohed the idea that the babies had been mixed up". Mrs Margaret Wheeler, now aged 75, said yesterday at her home near Cockermouth, Cumbria.

Mrs Blanche Rylatt, now aged 75 and living in Nottingham, also could not believe, at the time, that such a mix-up was possible, but both mothers agreed before leaving the nursing home to keep in touch.

As the girls grew up; Peggy Rylatt's dark eyes and hair were quite at odds with the complexion of the rest of her family.

It was when the girls were aged seven that the two mothers finally had access to the nursing home records and had absolute proof of the administrative slip-up.

Their respective forms had been signed by the wrong doctor

Both decided that setting the tangle to rights would be too traumatic for the girls. Instead they agreed to keep in close touch so they could see their true daughters grow up.

Initial distress soon gave way to a sense that both families had gained. Mrs Wheeler said: "I was distressed at first but now I feel as though I had won another daughter rather than lost."

Peggy Rylatt was 18 and on the eve of her engagement when "Aunt Margaret" admitted that she was in fact her mother. She produced a photograph of another of her daughters and it was like seeing a photograph of herself two years younger.

Peggy Rylatt, now Mrs Clark, lives in Nottingham and has two children of her own. Her son Simon, aged 18, said yesterday: "It was a gradual realization, part of family lore that we all came to accept after my mother passed it on to my sister and myself."

When the two girls learnt about the mix-up, both decided to stay with the families that had unwittingly adopted them. They both add gently to the confusion by regarding one another as sisters and Mrs Clark calls both mothers "mum".

Her "sister" Valerie is now married with two children and lives in Andora. She and more than forty friends and relatives, will be united today to celebrate Mr and Mrs Wheeler's golden wedding and a happy outcome to the administrative mix-up.

Suicides in police care increase

By Peter Evans

The number of deaths in police custody in England and Wales from suicide, misadventure or accident almost doubled last year.

Those from misadventure or accident rose from 17 to 30, and suicides from four to eight out of a total last year of 55 deaths in police custody "or otherwise with the police".

Poisoning due to alcohol and drugs accounted for 10 cases of deaths from misadventure or accident and for two suicides.

Five of the deaths from misadventure or accident caused were by a fractured skull: in four cases a combination with other causes was given – lung disease in three cases and brain haemorrhage in one.

Hanging accounted for six of the eight suicides.

The total of 55 deaths was very close to the figure for 1981, which was 49, a Home Office statistical bulletin says, "given that the figures for 1982 include three deaths which occured in cases in which police has been substituting for the ambulance service during the National Health Service dispute".

The bulletin says there were 1.6 million arrests in England and Wales in 1982, and that the number of deaths was "very small" in comparison.

Statistics of Deaths in Police Custody or Otherwise with the Police in England and Wales – 1982. (Home Office Statistical Department, Tolworth Tower, Surbiton, Surrey KT6 7DS. £1).

Peer back on the road

Lord Hesketh yesterday began to rebuild his motor cycle business when he unveiled the Vampire, a £6,500 machine with streamlined sports fairing.

Since the beginning of the year Lord Hesketh has produced 35 of his 998cc V1000 motor cycles at his home in Easton Neston set in 3,000 acres near Towcester, Northamptonshire. They are assembled in the place where Hesketh Formula One racing cars were once made.

Lord Hesketh, aged 32, saw his original motor cycle business crash last year. He said yesterday: "I lost £500,000 and people say I am mad to try again. I am doing it because I believe in the machine although I know we have a long and daunting road ahead.

"The mistake I made last time was to try to develop too quickly. We were also unlucky to be hit by the recession which affected the whole motor cycle market."

This time Lord Hesketh is proceeding with caution. He kept on a staff of four and in December bought the V1000 manufacturing rights from the receiver. The staff has been increased to 14 and production is running at two motor cycles a week.

The prototype Vampire will be on view at the TT races in the Isle of Man next week and production starts at the end of the month.

Lord Hesketh said the Vampire was the first of several new models which would all begin with the letter V.

The Vampire has a colour-matched glassfibre fairing integrated into the design of the V1000. It costs £6,536 with a standard black frame and £6,785 with a nickel frame.

WI dances in aisles at Albert Hall

By A Correspondent

Five thousand members of the National Federation of Women's Institutes gathered in the Albert Hall, London, yesterday to launch a new image and many delegates danced in the aisles to the strains of a pop theme song, "Prospects are Sky High at the WI".

The annual meeting began in the usual way, however, with all the women singing "Jerusalem".

A move to enforce planning permission for agricultural buildings, which had been seen as a change in direction from the WI's close connexions with the farming community, was rejected by the conference.

Mrs Barbara Wright, and Oxford delegate, said: "The modern British barn is no longer a thing of beauty or rustic charm. In the interests of economy they are now often constructed of concrete and corrugated asbestos and are frequently of enormous proportions."

Others argued that further controls would increase bureaucracy. "Any building which causes a nuisance or is a health hazard is already subject to the control of the local authority or of the private individual using common law", Mrs Maureen Mason, a delegate from Copley, Durham, said.

Other motions on the status of test-tube babies, improved hospice care and a man's right to the contributory pension of his dead wife were passed almost unanimously.

The conference also saw the launching of the WI's promotion, Women in the Community, which it hopes will bring more members and more publicity in the next two years.

The aim of the conference is to show off the WI's achievements "Other groups have been shouting for a long time. Now we are going to start shouting because we have achieved as much as them and more", one WI stalwart told *The Times*.

Leading article, page 15

Donor heart flown from Vienna

Mr Magdi Yacoub, the heart surgeon at Harefield Hospital, Middlesex, flew to Vienna to collecyt a new heart for an electrician aged 52.

The patient, Mr Roy Price, of Mansfield Woodhouse, Nottinghamshire, is now recovering after the hospital's 58th heart transplant operation.

Mr Price, who has had three heart attacks, was admitted to the hospital last week for tests. Then a suitable donor was unexpectedly found in Vienna and the seven-hour operation took place on Sunday.

His wife, Mrs Jean Price, said: "It has all happened so quickly. A few weeks ago we had never even thought of a transplant. The operation has been a success."

£2m natural hot water project

A £2m scheme by the Department of Energy to provide hot water for thousands of homes by drilling 5,000 boreholes in the Grimsby and Cleathorpes area of Humberside was announced yesterday.

The natural hot water which the department thinks abounds in the area could be available for use in less than two years. Geophysicists will drill five boreholes to determine the most prolific area of natural hot water.

Cancer check to be made

A medical study is to be made in south and west Cumbria to try to determine if there is any link between certain forms of cancer and radioactive discharges from the Sellafield nuclear reprocessing plant.

Dr John Terrell, medical officer for West Cumbria, said it may never be possible to establish a link conclusively but he thought a detailed study would be worthwhile especially in view of recent claims about the effect of a fire at the plant in 1957

Stray horses to be rounded up

A former miner who looked after pit ponies has been chosen by Wansbeck council in Northumberland as a full-time horse warden. It is believed to be the first such appointment by a local authority.

Mr George Dickson, aged 56, of Stakeford, near Ashington, will be equipped with a rope lasso and a horse box to round up stray horses.

Beatles work on display

An exhibition containing Beatles, film and music never brfore seen of heard in public expected to draw thousnads of fans next month ot the group's old headquarters, the former Apple studios, in St John's Wood, north west London.

Five remanded on drug charges

Five men charged after the seizure of two kilos of cocaine, with an estimated street value of £800,000, at the Cumberland Hotel in Marble Arch, London, were remanded in custody until June 9 at Horseferry Road court yesterday.

Death crash driver fined £500

Ralph James, a public relations consultant, narrowly escaped a prison sentence yesterday, after pleading guilty to causing the death of a motor cyclist by reckless driving, having drunk more than the permitted level of alcohol.

Judge Abdela, QC, told James at the Centeral Criminal Court: "A drinking driver, in my view, ought to go to prison because that is about the only salutory lesson which seems to have any impact upon such a person."

But he gave James credit for pleading guilty and said that the tragedy must have been preying on his mind since the accident. "It is unreasonable to punish his family by sending him to prison immediately," the judge said.

James, aged 47, of Foxearth Road, South Croydon, was given a 12-month prison sentence, suspended for two years, and fined £500 with costs. He had pleaded guilty to causing the death of William Carter, aged 44, a maintenance engineer, of Norstead Lane, Patts Bottom, near Sevenoaks, Kent by reckless driving in October, 1981.

James, who was also disqualified from driving for 12 months, had driven his BMW car into Mr Carter, who was riding in the same direction on the A21, Mr Steven Weddle, for the prosecution, said.

Old timer

Mr Tom Gribble, aged 62, a retired British Aerospace worker of Henbury, Bristol, has stipulated in his will that he wishes to be cremated and the ashes used in an egg timer so that he "will be of some use again one day"

'Walk through history' display planned

By Kenneth Gosling

Half a million visitors a year to the ancient city of Winchester are expected to go to an exhibition that will give them a "walk through history", if plans approved by the city council's amenities committee last night are carried through.

A two-storey historical exhibition centre, bringing together all the archaeological finds of the past 30 years, will be created at a cost of £3.1m on the site of an Army barracks.

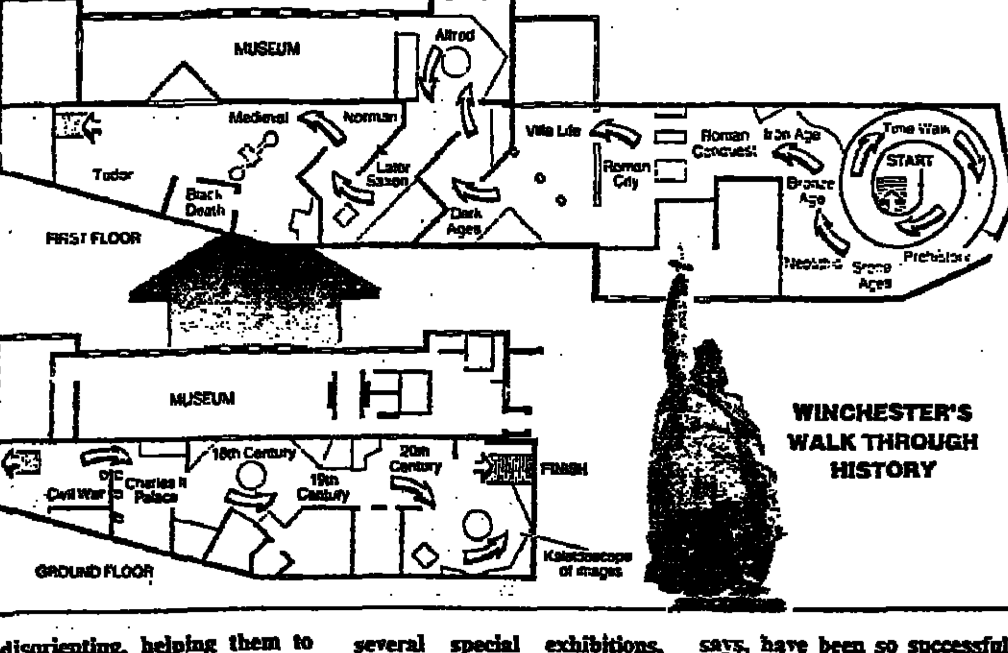
The idea is to start visitors on a "time walk" from the present day to 10,000 BC and back to modern times. The centre could be ready by 1989, two years after the Army leaves the site.

Mr David Cowan, chief executive of Winchester City Council, said yesterday: "What we have in mind is that people going to the exhibition, will start with a time walk, a spiral corridor with no corners or straights.

"As they go along, the carpets will become deeper and the tunnel will become mildly disorienting, helping them to leave the everyday world behind. It will give them an impression of the chronological distance to the starting point in 10,000 BC".

Before the Army leaves, several special exhibitions, notably one on the Domesday Book, are expected to be held in the site.

Archadelogical work in Winchester began in the 1950s and few cities, Mr Cowan says, have been so successful in reclaiming details of its past. "We have two very small museums here and yet we have this unique heritage that has been researched and excavated."



ELECTION JUNE 83 **Profiles of SDP leaders ● EEC withdrawal clash ● N Sea oil controversy**

Alliance surge may be too late to save the Gang of Four

Although the latest opinion polls have revealed a dramatic upsurge of support for the Alliance, the "Gang of Four" who set up the SDP face a tough fight to be returned to Parliament (Richard Evans writes).

Mr Roy Jenkins, who is defending Glasgow, Hillhead, and more particularly Mrs Shirley Williams, fighting to hold Crosby, achieved by-election victories in 1981 at the height of the SDP's popularity, since when the party's opinion poll rating has slumped. Dr David Owen, MP for Plymouth, Devonport since 1974, has an uphill task in defending what has become a marginal seat in a Tory town. But the gang member with the toughest ordeal appears to be Mr Bill Rodgers, who had a massive majority while Labour MP for Stockton, North, but now has to persuade voters in prime Labour heartland to follow his example and switch allegiance to the SDP. Mr Ron Pollard, the political betting guru at Ladbrokes, yesterday offered a welter of odds which reflect the difficulties facing the gang. The chances of all four emerging victorious on June 9 are 14-1 against, while the odds against every member of the gang losing are 6-1.

More interesting, the odds on each member's individual chances of survival are much closer. Mr Jenkins and Dr Owen are both 5-4 on, while Mrs Williams and Mr Rodgers are 6-4 against.



Shirley Williams: Gutsy fighter

The *Chariots of Fire* theme blaring from loudspeakers mounted above the hire van whisking her around Crosby sounds an emininently suitable battle cry for the athletic and seemingly inexhaustable Mrs Shirley Williams.

Were the results to be determined by effort alone she would certainly breast the election tape well ahead of the field. But it is swings not stamina that could decide Mrs Williams' parliamentary membership of the "Gang of Four".

In November, 1981, she scored an astonishing victory in the constituency, taking what many colleagues believed was an impossible gamble and then trouncing her Conservative rival from a traditional middle-class Conservative stronghold.

A 19,000 Conservative majority was turned into a 5,289 SDP lead by the largest movement of voters in the British Isles. But the ensuing 19 months have not been kind to Mrs Williams. Thatcherite policies which alienated Conservative supporters in the country's biggest mainland constituency during the by-election are winning back huge support.

Boundary changes have meant the loss of a chunk of Labour voters willing to turn SDP to keep the Conservatives out. Uncommitted supporters of the right are concerned at the Alliance's poor poll showings and reverting to their former Conservative allegiances to block Labour hopes of victory.

Crosby is Liverpool's stockbroker belt, less than 10 miles from the city centre but socially a million miles removed from *Boys of the Blackstuff* Scouse image.

It is predominantly middle-class, has 81.5 per cent owner-occupancy and a generous selection of golf courses.

Mrs Williams, a gutsy political fighter, knows she has a Herculean task on her hands if she is to avoid a second successive general election defeat. "I make no bones about it, this will be a difficult constituency for me to win. Not so much because of the tory following but because of boundary changes," she said. "It is tough seat."

Tough it may be but impossible it is not. Since the SDP president became their MP, Crosby residents have been impressed by the way Mrs Williams has thrown herself into constituency affairs, always willing, not only to listen to grievances, but to take action to put them right.

A recent example was when a parents' association petitioned her for school playing fields. Mrs Williams wrote to all 300 parents individually and then persuaded the local authority to provide the playing field.

Mr Malcome Thornton, the Conservative candidate a former Mersey river pilot has also been busy in the hustings. He dismisses the SDP victory after 36 years of Conservative rule, as nothing more than a temporary hiccup.

Like Mrs Williams, her main rival is a seasoned campaigner. His strength lies in the fact that, not only is he home-grown, a Merseysider and former local politician as leader of Wirral council, but he has already proved his parliamentary ability as Private Secretary to Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for Industry.

Mr Thonton cynically suggests to voters that his opponents are both socialist candidates, one from the hard left and the other, Mrs Williams "of the soft left".

In a area that shuddered under the vibrations of the terrying Toxteth riots of July, 1981, he stands on an uncompromising law and order platform.

Labour outsider Robert Waring a psychiatric social worker aged 32, and Merseyside County councillor is relying on the spreading Liverpool disease of unemployment for the bulk of his votes. "From the outside Crosby looks like leafy suburbia but almost one in five are out of work," he says.

Labour lost its deposit in the by-election and whether along leafy lane or not, Mr Waring's journey towards victory is uphill all the way.

Peter Hussey, the Ecology candidate figures largely in the outcome, not because he stands a chance of being elected, but because any switch of the 1,500 votes he polled in the 1079 election could decide the outcome in this knife-edged constituency.

Anxious SDP eyes throughout the country will be on Crosby when the polling booths close on June 9 to see if Mrs Williams' battlecry becomes her swan song.

Ian Smith



Roy Jenkins: Open contest

From outside Mr Roy Jenkins' campaign headquarters in Glasgow, Hillhead, 14 Labour posters are visible, six for the Scottish National Party, one for the SDP/Liberal Alliance and none for the Conservatives. That may not be an accurate representation of the state of the parties but is shows Labour's determination to unseat its former deputy leader from his new-found Scottish home.

There is no doubt that if it were posters rather than votes that were being counted at Hillhead, Labour would easily win. The small red circles bearing the name of their candidate, Mr Neil Carmichael, easily out-number the posters of all the other parties put together.

Labour also has by far the largest number of helpers on the ground. Mr Martin Hilland, the Labour agent, can count on up to 120 helpers each evening compared to the 50 or so who out each night for the Alliance and the Conservatives' small band of 15 to 20 regular helpers.

Early on in the campaign Mr Chris Ford, the SDP agent, was expressing open concern about the impact on the result of the 17,000 or so new electors from Mr Neil Carmichael's old Kelvin Grove seat, half of which has a noticeably more optimistic atmosphere in the SDP headquarters, with canvassers coming in hourly with reports of new converts.

What Mr Jenkins needs above all if he is to hold the seat he won in last year's by-elections is a collapse in the Conservative votes. There are some signs that this may be beginning to happen. A poll carried out last Sunday by Audience Selection for *The Sun* Newspaper indicated 34 per cent for the Alliance, 33 per cent for Labour and 29 per cent for the Conservatives with the SNP trailing behind with only 3 per cent.

Both Labour and the Conservatives deny that the Conservative vote is collapsing. The Conservative agent, Kirk Carter, says that his canvassing returns suggest that Labour is in the lead with the Conservative candidate, Mr Murray Tosh, a close second and the Alliance third.

The Labour canvassing returns confirm this trend. However, there is an undeniably luck-lustre feel about the Conservative campaign. Even their election leaflet was late in coming from the Printers.

If, as the SDP canvassers say they are pointing, former Conservative voters are coming over to the Alliance, either for tactical reasons, or out of conviction, and, in one case, a paid up member of the Conservative Party actually gave £5 to the Alliance campaign, Mr Jenkins must be regarded as the favourite to win.

However, it would be a rash man who would predict the result of what is bound to be a tight contest. There are still a large number of undecided voters in Hillhead, around one third of the electorate according to some canvass returns, and it will be their final choice on Thursday which will determine the outcome.

Ian Bradley

William Rodgers: Price of privilege

Stockton, North, is keeping its political feelings firmly under wraps. As stair rods of rain drenched Billingham, the heart of the constituency Mr William Rodgers has served for 21 years, there were no detectable signs on Wednesday that a general election was taking place. On the sprawling estates around the town centre, houses kept their counsel. In street after street not a single party political poster was on display and householders showed a distinct lack of interest in an election that will decide the future of Mr Rodgers and his espoused Social Democrat Party.

The general feeling was that Stockton will remain, as always, solidly Labour and that since Mr Rodgers has chosen to switch sides he will pay for that privilege with his seat.

Labour supporters had long memories and resented his decision to leave more than they were willing to respect his motives for leaving. Some were critical, too, of his decision to hold on to the seat which he won as a Labour candidate rather than fighting a by-election two years ago.

In all this has not been an easy campaign for Mr Rodgers. There have been ugly scenes. He has been spat at, punched and shouted down, all of which he declares optimistically will provide nails for Labour's coffin. His election broadsheet concentrates entirely on his personal record as MP for Stockton and makes no mention of the SDP or the Alliance. He felt justified in doing this, he said, because his personal vote was obviously important. While he had changed his party he had not changed the principles in which he fundamentally believed.

The Labour Party locally had complained about that but there can be few voters in Stockton unaware of the SDP-Liberal Alliance and who is representing it. With less than a week to go Mr Rodgers's strongest hope rests on a late improvement in Alliance support nationally to which he can add some personal votes, the legacy of more than two decades' service to Stockton.

He may also be helped by any shift away from the left wing of the Labour Party although Mr Frank Cook, the Labour candidate, is unlikely to prove unacceptably radical to Stockton voters who last time gave Mr Rodgers a majority of over 11,000 votes. Mr Cook is an enthusiastic supporter of all points in the Labour manifesto.

But he is perhaps underestimating the work being put in by Mr Harry Davies, a local headmaster and well-known local politician who has been wearing down his knuckles on Stockton, North, doors on behalf of the Conservative Party. No chance here that Mr Rodgers, unlike his colleague across the Tees, will be presented with a Conservative opponent who is unmasked as a former National Front candidate or a Labour candidate who could prove unacceptably left-wing.

Ronald Faux



David Owen: High profile

Dr David Owen claims a large share of the credit for the apparent collapse of the Labour support nationally. As the Alliance turns its attack to block a Conservative landslide, the deputy leader of thbe SDP casts an almost despairing eye towards the Conservatives in Plymouth Devonport as they threaten to capture the constituency.

His fear is that a Conservative landslide will not only prove that he was right about the state of the Labour Party but also that it will sweep all before it, including the SDP

As the general election campaign began, Dr Owen's first press conference in Plymouth was subdued. In what had supposedly become a safer Labour seat through boundary changes, he prepared to withstand an attack for his defection from the Labour Party and his refusal to stand ina by-election in a constituency he admitted was no hotbed of Militant activity.

If such an attack was started he found and now admits that to his surprise he did not have to apologize at all for his position; to the contrary, he said, he has encountered little hostility and instead has witnessed the crumbling of the Labour vote: "They are saying more in sorrow than in anger – 'David, you should have stayed'."

Dr Owen, a Plymouth MP since 1966, claims that Labour can no longer win Devonport; the Conservatives' Miss Ann Widdecombe supports the theory of a two-horse race between herself and the SDP while Mr Julian Priestley for Labour says in turn that Dr Owen is out of the running.

Dr Owen never believed that of the "gang of four" his seat in the West Country was the most likely to be retained.

He says that the Alliance must achieve at least 25 per cent support in the opinion polls if he is to win Devenport and appears now at last to believe it is possible.

In 1979 Dr Owen curtailed the then Conservative swing and kept his seat for Labour with a halved majority of about 1,000. His period as Labour's controversial Foreign Secretary and his later prominence in the SDP and the Alliance has established a high profile image which he now hopes will serve him well in a fight he describes as "very tough".

Dr Owen believes he played a significant, if not leading, role in giving the Alliance a credible defence policy, and exposing that of the Labour Party, while his support of the Government during the Falklands has probably stood him in good stead in a constituency dominated by the Naval dockyard whose 13,000 employees are nervous about the future employment prospects.

His concern now is to persuade Devonport electors that they need tough alternative voice in the Commons, not a third Plymouth Conservative.

Dr Owen said: "I have conducted a campaign which at least had some intellectual consistency. The first phase was to get Labour out of the way and the second is now to harness the desire to check Mrs Thatcher. The likelihood of a landslide victory for the Conservatives is causing considerable anxiety to a lot of people who were hitherto planning to vote for them."

If the Labour vote in Devonport is collapsing, its extent is crucial to Dr Owen's chances. Mr Julian Priestley, claims not to have detected a great deal of movement in party positions.

He said: "The Labour vote is holding up extremely well and although some of the undecideds are making up their minds, it is not in any one direction. Our canvass returns show Labour significantly ahead in terms of promised votes, the Tories are a good second and the SDP and Dr Owen a considerably way behind."

Mr Keith Griffiths, the Conservative agent in Devonport, claims that Dr Owen is still showing only 20 per cent support in the constituency, although it is still rising, while the Conservatives are well ahead with 45 to 46 per cent support and Labour now falling below 30 per cent.

The Conservatives' surprise at their apparent lead is hard to hide. Mr Griffiths says with some confidence: "The Labour Party can say goodbye to Devonport. The competition is between the Conservatives and the SDP. The Labour vote is collapsing and splitting between the two of us."

Craig Seton

Pym says EEC pull-out will lead to chaos

By Our Political Staff

While Mr Francis Pym, Foreign and Commonweath Secretary, labelled the Labour Party's policy of withdrawal from the European Community "unbelievably damaging" and "a recipe for chaos", Mr Peter Shore, Labour's shadow Chancellor of the Exchequer, yesterday continued to deny that the plan would result in any loss of jobs.

He said it was "nonsense" for defenders of EEC membership to suggest that 2.5 million jobs would be lost. He agreed that there were that many people involved in Britain's exports to Europe. "Of course that is the case," he said, "but 2.5 million jobs are involved in the Community in exporting goods to Britain."

Mr Shore was replying to a questioner at Labour's press conference in London. "If the implication of your question is that we lose the possibility of supplying Europe by leaving the Rome Treaty, which is quite wrong anyway, then clearly they must lose 2.5 million jobs in exporting to Britain," Mr Shore said. "I think you will see now why it is nonsense."

Mr Pym, at the Conservative Party press conference, accused Labour of being deliberately obscure about the alternative arrangements they intended to make to secure our export markets. "Given the importance of the community market for jobs, investment, trade and agriculture, it is quite astonishing that Labour should treat the electorate with such contempt," Mr Pym said.

"They won't trust them to vote in another referendum-... they have prevaricated over the support they would give to UK agriculture outside the Community.

"Their ill-defined timetable for withdrawal is a recipe for chaos, and will do immense damage to our international standing."

It was all too easy, Mr Pym said, to get lost in the trees and forget what the Community really meant: "It has made unthinkable that the historical rivalries of Western Europe should ever again lead to world war, it provides the political and economic weight to increase our influance in the world, and to enable us to establish a partnership of equals with the United States and it buys from us more than half as much again as the United States, Japan and the Commonwealth put together.

Mrs Thatcher said that membership of the EEC had not been an issue for the Conservative Party for some time. Getting the fisheries agreement had been a great achievement.

"We had hoped that it would be followed by new long-term arrangements for financing the community," she said. "That has not happened yet, but work is being done on it... and I have said that we simply must have another interim arrangement on the budget this year."

Union branch supports SDP candidate

An SDP candidate who already has the personal backing of Mr Frank Chapple, the TUC chairman, yesterday received open endorsement and a £50 donation from a "rebel" trade union branch.

The unanimous decision to support Mr John Grant, SDP industry spokesman and candidate for Islington North London, was taken by the trade union and political branch of the Association of Professional Executive Clerical and Computer staffs (APEX) representing about 150 white-collar staff who work at Mr Chapple's Electricians' Union headquarters at Bromley, Kent, and in the union's area offices.

Labour plans 200-mile fishing limit

From Our Correspondent, Glasgow

A future Labour government would establish a 200-mile fishing limit similar to those of Iceland and Norway, Mr Norman Buchan, Labour fisheries spokesman, said in Aberdeen yesterday.

Once Britain had withdrawn from the EEC a 200-mile limit would allow bilateral agreements with EEC countries and with Norway over access to British waters, he added.

Included in Labour's plans were benefits for fishermen including a minimum wage, a pension scheme, redundancy arrangements and improved safety training, said Mr Buchan.

THE ISSUES
DEVOLUTION

The pageant runs out of breath

By Julian Haviland
Political Editor

Outside the four seats which nationalists are defending – two in Scotland and two in Wales – and the two or three where they have some hope of a gain, little breath is being spent on the question which took so much of the time of the last Parliament but one and by which the last Labour government lived and died.

In October 1974 the Conservative Manifesto promised the Scots an assembly in Edinburgh. In May 1979, after Labour's vain attempt to establish one, the Conservatives spoke only of a commitment to discussions about the future government of Scotland.

By 1980 that commitment was discharged and today the Conservative Manifesto for the United Kingdom says nothing, while the Scottish edition briefly notes the creation of the Commons select committee on Scottish affairs and adds: "We remain ready to consider further changes to improve the government of Scotland within the United Kingdom."

So the pageant has faded. Tory pragmatism, which revealed the beauty of a Scottish Assembly to Mr Edward Heath in 1968, and the mischief of it to Mrs Margaret Thatcher 10 years later, has easily adapted to the surge and retreat of Scottish nationalism.

Mr George Younger, the Secretary of State for Scotland, said in Edinburgh last October: "I do not believe most people in Scotland are any longer interested in this subject as a practical proposition."

The Labour Party, equally opportunist but less flexible, made shift to govern from 1974 to 1979 with the support of the Scottish National Party and Plaid Cymru and fell when they forfeited that support. In the election which followed they dropped the Welsh but kept the Scottish assembly in their scheme of things,

This year they again propose a directly-elected assembly and executive for Scotland.

For Wales, Labour is "examining how best to improve local democracy."

The ancient Liberal belief in federalism has been submerged in the Alliance manifesto beneath something less precise. They offer a Scottish Parliament, with powers to tax but not to run a budget deficit.

Tomorrow: Northern Ireland



Devon diversion: Sir Geoffrey Howe relaxing on the bowling green at Plymouth Hoe yesterday.

Oil millions 'squandered' on unemployment benefit

By Our Political Staff

The "wasted millions" of North Sea oil revenue provided the main theme of the Liberal/SDP Alliance and Labour campaign press briefings in London yesterday.

The Alliance, with Mr David Steel, the Liberal leader, and Mr William Rodgers, one of the "founding four" of the SDP, as spokesmen, produced three black barrels labelled "North Sea Oil" to illustrate how tax revenue from such a quantity of oil had to be used to pay unemployment benefit for a married couple for a week.

"The point we are making is that three-quarters of all tax revenue from North Sea oil last year went directly to finance benefits for the dole queue," Mr Steel said.

Huge sums which could have been used on investment to produce jobs had been "frittered away", while investment had dropped to below 2 per cent of the gross national product last year, compared with 6 per cent 10 years ago.

The Alliance was accusing the Government of failing to "invest forward" in the British economy, Mr Steel said.

Mr John Smith, the Labour Party's energy spokesman, said that since 1979 Mrs Thatcher had received £20,500m in North Sea oil revenues, one of the greatest windfalls any British Government has had, "but she has squandered the whole of it to pay for the cost of the extra unemployment she has created."

He said that without the extra revenue she would have had to cut unemployment benefit or increase taxes massively.

"In the one case she would have courted social revolution, in the other she would have lost all political support," Mr Smith said. "What a tragedy that this sum has not been used in British industry... We believe the revenue should be used to rebuild our industry and to inject demand into the economy to get it moving again."

CONSTITUENCY PROFILE **Kingswood**

'Outsider' versus the local

CANDIDATES
T. Walker (Lab)
R. Hayward (C)
M. Gilbert (SDP/All)

Profile of Kingswood

1981	% Own Occ	68
1981	% Loc Auth	27
1981	% Black/Asian	1
1981	% Mid cl	36
1981	% Prof man	10
1982	electorate	72,518
1979	BBC/ITN notional result:	Lab maj 3,900

Key: % Owner Occ: proportion owning their own homes; % Loc auth: proportion of council tenants; % Black/Asian: Proportion from New Commonwealth or Pakistan; % Mid cl: Proportion of non-manual workers; % Prof man: Professions, higher managers, and independent farmers; BBC/ITN notional result: Calculation of what result would have been in 1979 in new boundary constituencies by joint BBC/ITN study team.

Kingswood could be one of the closest contests. As the Labour and Conservative candidates fight for every vote, doorstep by doorstep, both must be preoccupied with the same question: how much extra advantage does a well-known local have over an outsider?

The new Kingswood has been substantially redrawn, but as Labour MP for the old seat between 1974-79, and Mr Terry Walker is a familiar figure, whereas Mr Robert Hayward, Conservative, selected six weeks ago, came from Swindon.

Mr Hayward, aged 34, a personnel manager, has a typically smooth and efficient Tory campaign machine behind him, while Mr Walker, aged 48, a newsagent, is desperately short of canvassers.

If all is harmony in the Labour Party now, they have a funny way of showing it in Kingswood. Mr Walker beat Mr Ron Thomas, a prominent Bristol left-winger, to become candidate, and a significant number of party activists promptly decamped to assist Mr Tony Benn's campaign in neighbouring Bristol, East.

Both the main parties accept that it is a highly marginal seat, and Mr Hayward believes that it will probably be decided by about 2,000 votes. The two-party fight is likely to mean that Mr Martyn Gilbert, SDP, will feel the squeeze. He is building from a Liberal base of under 5,000 votes in the old constituency.

In spite of Labour's shortage of activists, Mr Walker believes he will achieve a 100 per cent canvass. The party's difficulty is finding any passion, anger, or even great interest about any particular issue.

That is a bad sign for the party. Boundary changes removed large areas of middle-class Bristol suburbia to the east, and brought in what should be more Labour inclined wards nearer the city, but the constituency's marginality apparently remains.

Mr Hayward, who lost his deposit at Carmarthen in 1974, points out that at last month's Bristol city council elections wards in Kingswood polled slightly in favour of his party. Two wards that Labour should have held were won by a Conservative and a Liberal, he said.

Mr Gilbert, the Alliance candidate, aged 34, an ambulance service worker, who was born in Bristol, is a preacher and community worker in the area. Labour claims it has encountered little SDP support, but Mr Gilbert can claim that the recent city elections showed the Liberal arm of the Alliance doing well in areas such a Kingswood. The more votes he pulls, the more harm is likely to be done to Mr Walkers chances of victory.

Craig Seton

CONSTITUENCY PROFILE **Foyle**

The sectarian struggle

CANDIDATES
J. Hume (SDLP)
M. McGuinness (PSF)
G. Campbell (DUP)
G. O'Grady (All)
E. McLaugh (WP)

Profile of Foyle

1971	% RC	60
1979	Electorate	63,486
1979	BBC/ITN notional result SDLP	maj 2,000

Key: RC Roman Catholic.

It was in Londonderry that British troops went on to the streets in the current troubles and history of another kind is being made in the constituency which now includes Ulster's second city. The outcome of the struggle between Mr John Hume, aged 46, leader of the Social Democratic and Labour Party (SDLP) and Mr Martin McGuinness, aged 33, of the Provisional Sinn Fein (PSF) will be momentous, whoever emerges as victor.

A defeat for the province's best known nationalist politician on his home ground would probably be fatal to the SDLP's fortunes but victory will be historic. It would be the first time the city, which has a nationalist majority, would have a Roman Catholic MP at Westminster.

It is a prize the SDLP wants though Mr Hume, well known in Dublin, Brussels and the United States has had to overcome personal misgivings about Westminster. A party worker said: "People know a nationalist has never gone to Westminster from here. They will come out to send John."

The constituency with 67,918 voters takes in 80 per cent of the old Londonderry seat and Strabane from mid-Ulster, making it strongly nationalist. With a two to one nationalist majority Foyle mirrors the province itself. In Londonderry, where the SDLP took overall control of the city council for the first time in 1981 with 41 per cent of the votes, unemployment is at 28 per cent rising to 36 per cent among men and is higher in areas like Creggan, Bogside and Shantallow.

Tomorrow – Bridgend, Southampton, Itchen

This reservoir of people is fertile ground for the Provisional Sinn Fein who have five advice centres manned by the unemployed as part of their grass roots politics. They are mounting personal attacks on Mr Hume as a "failed leader" while attempting to take advantage of his party's decision to abstain on a motion in the council trying to remove "London" from its name.

Mr McGuinness, who has served two prison sentences in the republic for membership of the IRA, appears diffident but is an articulate exponent of politics Sinn Fein-style as he sits in his office surrounded by many left-wing books.

Rival Unionists agreed a deal and Mr Gregory Campbell of the Democratic Unionists Party is championing the "loyalist" cause though the Official Unionists believe he is not the best man to maximise the Unionist vote. He is appealing for Protestants' support against the SDLP and is also using a decision to stop flying the Union flag on council buildings to rally his supporters.

Mr Gerald O'Grady, the Alliance candidate is campaigning on his party's aim to end sectarianism but will get a low vote as will Mr Eamonn McLaugh of the Workers Party

Richard Ford

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Nuclear arms in Europe

Nato backs twin-track policy of negotiations and missile deployment

From Frederick Bonnart, Brussels

Nato's defence ministers reaffirmed their strong belief in the December, 1979, "twin-track decision" of deploying the American medium-range Cruise and Pershing 2 missiles in Europe and, at the same time, attempting to reach arms control agreement with the Soviet Union.

They emphasized that the security of the alliance depended on the continued presence of American troops in Europe and the US strategic nuclear commitment, as well as on the defence and deterrent capabilities of the European member nations.

There were some reservations, introducing a discordant note in addition to the usual Greek reservation on allied support for the US negotiating position in Geneva.

Mr Hans Engell, the Danish Defence Minister, spoke of a motion critical of stationing missiles in this country passed by the opposition in the Danish Parliament a few days ago.

In a somewhat ambiguous statement, Spain also reserved it position pending a review regarding its participation in the alliance.

The main purpose of the meeting was to issue a ministerial guidance which serves as the main political directive for Nato defence planning and gives directions for the preparation of the Nato force goals for the period of 1985-1990.

Underlining th growing disparity between Nato and Warsaw Pact forces, the ministers decided that greater financial resources would have to be provided and agreed that their 3 per cent target for annual increase in defence expenditure was still the best solution.

However, they emphasized that member nations would have to take steps to make their existing forces more effective. This could be achieved by modernization, higher readiness and "sustainability" (the ability to go on fighting for longer periods), by the implementation of the rapid reinforcement plan, better air defence and the provision of additional reserve units.

New technology offered a "sigificant potential" in improving conventional forces and progress was seen in the direction of "coordination national efforts in ensuring the exploration of emerging technologies".

With a clear reference to the United States, the ministers urged member nations to take account of Nato defence planning initiatives for making "opportunities in transatlantic cooperation".

In an earlier briefing, Herr Manfred Wörner, the West German Defence Minister, said that he had made it clear to Mr Caspar Weinberger, his American opposite number, that he was all for such cooperation but Bonn was already producing some of this equipment, and technology and production should be on a 50-50 basis.

Reference was made to the previously contentious issue of the degree of assistance to be given by one member country to another, especially the United States, which was able to send forces to deal with developments beyond the Nato area which "might threaten the vital interests of members of the alliance."

According to a senior Nato official, the Europeans and the United States were now fairly close to an agreement on general principles. Concrete results could only be obtained on a case-by-case basis, he said.

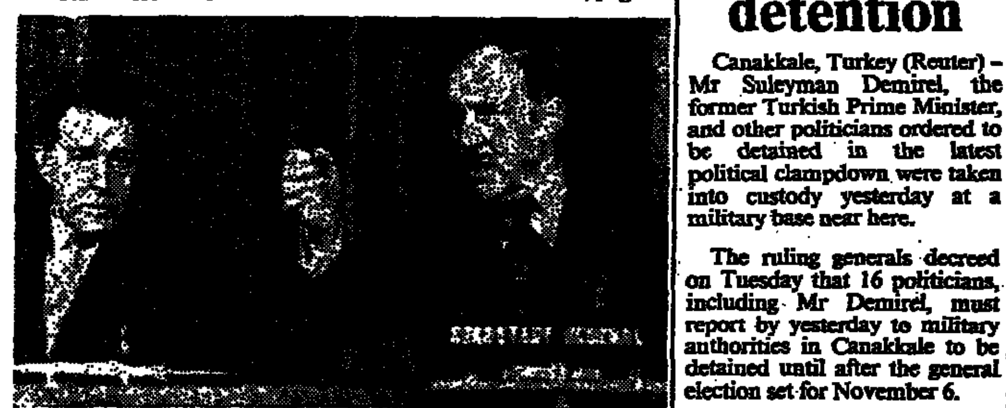
Dr Joseph Luns, Nato's Secretary-General, pointed out at yesterday's meeting that the danger to Europe was not limited to the Soviet SS20 missile, as some of the shorter-range Soviet nuclear weapons could also hit the whole of Europe. The SS22, for instance, is known to have a range of over 550 miles, with ranges of 300 to 400 miles for others.

Mr Caspar Weinberger, the US Defence Secretary, confirmed that Soviet battlefield nuclear weapons had been stationed in Eastern Europe for a long time, but he maintained that they would be included in arms control negotiations.

Nato officials added that a high-level group of senior officials was studying ways of reducing these types of weapons prior to submitting a report for the autumn meeting of Nato's nuclear planning group.

Dr Luns noted that the strength of the alliance lay in technological advance. The ministers agreed that this enabled them to make "substantial improvements in the conventional defence of the alliance and decided to coordinate national efforts to ensure the exploitation of new technologies.

Letters, page 15



Nato's iron fist: Dr Joseph Luns (right) and Mr Casper Weinberger at yesterday's press conference.

Reagan tells Rowny to be sensible

From Our Correspondent Washington

President Reagan is planning to revise the American proposal at the Strategic Arms Reduction Talks (Start) with the Soviet Union and has told Mr Edward Rowny, his chief negotiator, to examine all Soviet propsals seriously and be flexible.

Mr Rowny disclosed this to journalists after seeing the President at the White House on Wednesday before the resumption of Start in Geneva next Wednesday.

Mr Rowny said the President had assured him that he would modify his instructions to make them fully consistent with the recommendations of the independent Scowcroft Commission report on the MX missile.

One recommendation was that the US should seek a Start agreement that limited the nuclear warheads rather than the missile launchers of each superpower.

Last July in Start the US called for each side to reduce the number of long-range nuclear warheads by about one third to 5,000 each.

The President is to hold a meeting of his National Security Council probably on Tuesday to decide how to revise the current American proposal.

The New York Times yesterday reported that the State and Defence Department disagreed on revisions in the US position.

The Report said it was certain that within the next week or so the President would raise the proposed ceiling of 850 deplored strategic missiles on each side, as most officials wanted, to make agreement with Moscow easier.

The US now has 1,500 strategic missiles compared with 2,343 for the Soviet Union.

Mr Rowny said: "We have a good proposal on the table which lends itself to incorporating the changes that the President will decide are needed" to carry out the Scowcroft Commission recommendations.



More blasts as Peru steps up security

A Peruvian policeman inspects the identification papers of passengers travelling from Lima into the Andes at a roadblock outside Matucana. Checks have been stepped up since a state of emergency was declared on Monday.

Police said yesterday that guerrillas had set off dynamite blasts in various parts of the country, AP reports.

In Ayacucho, heartland of the leftist guerrillas movement, 350 miles south-east of Lima, the guerrillas took advantage of a 90-minute power blackout caused by an earlier attack to set fire to the Government Cultural Institute. The fire was put out quickly and there was no injuries.

In Huaraz, 195 miles north of the capital, a shop and the house of a policeman were bombed. No one was hurt.

Police in Chimbote, 250 miles north of Lima, said eight suspected terrorists were captured at the town of Ancos after six explosions, in which no one was hurt.

Police sources in Lima, meanwhile, indicated that the wave of arrests since President Fernando Belaunde declared the emergency suspending civil rights was slowing down.

But the socialist newspaper *El Diario* reported more than a hundred people had been detained for questioning on Wednesday in 11 cities and towns outside the capital.

Demirel reports for detention

Canakkale, Turkey (Reuter) – Mr Suleyman Demirel, the former Turkish Prime Minister, and other politicians ordered to be detained in the latest political clampdown were taken into custody yesterday at a military base near here.

The ruling generals decreed on Tuesday that 16 politicians, including Mr Demirel, must report by yesterday to military authorities in Canakkale to be detained until after the general election set for November 6.

The decree also abolished one of five political parties which emerged since the ban on parties was lifted in April.

As Mr Demirel's car approached Canakkale from Ankara, it was diverted by the police to a seaside military establishment at Zincirbozan where the politicians are being held, at least for the time being.

By early evening, all detainecs had arrived at Zincirbozan except Mr Ishan Sabri Caglayangil, the former Foreign Minister, who was visiting the Soviet Union when the decree was issued.

Papandreou ignores protests

From Mario Modiano, Athens

Unruffled by protest strikers sweeping Greece, and the hostile slogans hurled by thousands of demonstrators massed outside Parliament, the Socialist Government is pressing ahead with its controversial legislation imposing severe restrictions on public sector strikes.

Parliament's Socialist majority was expected to obey the party whip and vote its approval of the Bill when the heated emergency debate ended.

The Bill authorizes the "socialization" of state-controlled banks, enterprises and public utilities, by introducing "active" worker participation, and also makes strikes illegal unless they are approved by an absolute majority of union membership in a secret ballot.

The law, clearly designed to curb the power of the pro-Soviet Greek Communist Party (KKE) to stir up labour trouble, now threatend to wreck the benevolent truce observed between the Socialist Government and the Communist opposition for the past 19 months.

Already Mr Harilaos Florakis, the KKE's secretary general, challenged the Government in Parliament on Wednesday night either to withdraw the Bill or hold early elections.

"The present parliamentary majority was elected by the people on its express assurance that it would defend and broaden the labour freedoms and the rights of the workers," Mr Florakis said. "Instead it is pressing legislation virtually abolishing the right to strike in the public sector ... The only democratic solution is to go to elections."

The Government's ulterior motive remains a mystery. One school of thought suggests that the aim is to emasculate the KKE's reaction in case of agreement with the Americans about the continued operation of US military bases in Greece.

Another view is that the precaution was vital because of a new set of austerity measures planned by the Government to curb the vast deficits run by the public enterprises, and to bridge the widening gap in the balance of payments with new loans from Western banks.

The moot point just now is whether or not the KKE will forsake the benefits of the truce with the Government and ask its trade unionists to defy the law with illegal strikes.

The conservative New Democracy, the main opposition party, which finds the KKE a strange bedfellow in its opposition to this Bill, stated that it would not incite workers to defy the law.

Crop project threatened by dropouts

From David Watts, Singapore

The Commonwealth Development Corporation is considering new investment in plantation development in the southern Philippines island of Mindanao, but the plans are already being opposed by the Roman Catholic Church.

The proposed new plantation would be about 40 miles from the site of the Guthrie-National Development Company of the Philippines plantation, in which the CDC is to invest £6.4m.

A loan agreement is expected to be signed within a month but has been delayed by the presence of men of the "Lost Command" under Lieutenant-Colonel Carlos Lademore who are being used as guards on the plantations.

Church leaders have criticised the plans because they fear that the type of development proposed is inappropriate. They also believe the peasant farmers involved on the project will be coerced by Colonel Lademora's men seeking a cut of whatever payment the corporation makes for their land.

Although Colonel Lademora's men will be replaced on the plantation by new guards trained for the purpose, there is little likelihood that his influence will be reduced either on the Guthrie plantation at San Francisco in Agusan del Sur or on the proposed new plantations at Loreto and La Paz.

The plantations will be joint ventures between CDC and the National Development Company of the Philippines. Both are still at the planning stage.

The corporation is employing a Manila firm to assess local farmers' response to their proposal to establish a plantation of 4,000 hectares of oil palm and rubber with a 50-hectare experiment plot of cacao.

Local church men agree that the corporation is taking care in establishing whether the farmers would like to join the scheme, but say it is naive to think that the task can be done without local influence as the CDC professes.

They also say that the CDC is not, as it claims, giving the local people what they want but is offering plantations of crops not indigenous to the area on a take-it-or-leave-it basis.

Some local politicians have welcomed the corporation proposals, but the church maintains that such agribusiness development will destroy the local social infrastructure which, though relatively primitive, has high moral values.

CDC says it can bring a standard of living previously unheard of, and make better use of the land which, if left as it is, would eventually be unable to support the population.

Colonel Lademora's men are Philippine armed forces dropouts and said to be responsible for much murder, rape and looting. He has 15 men serving as guards on the Guthrie plantation in return for monthly fees of about 40,000 pesos (about £2,600).

He controls rice supplies on the plantation, gold panning in the nearby mountains and the subsequent dealing in the metal. When workers collect their weekly money there is usually one of Colonel Lademora's men standing nearby running a "lottery", gun in hand. The workers never seem to win.

Colonel Lademora's house is an unpretentious wood-frame building with a wide veranda set back off the main road through San Francisco, which lies at a valley junction amid Mindanao's mountains.

Several young women with children sit on the veranda while their leader sleeps. This takes up most of his day since he spends many nights on patrol with his men.

Roused from an obviously deep sleep he walked out across the veranda, running his hand through his short-cut steel-grey hair.

He was not prepared to discuss his activities with a "communist journalist" from *The Times.*

Buddhism is reborn

Prayer flags fly again over Tibet

From Christopher Wren

Lhasa (NYT) – Bands of pilgrims bearing fruit jars filled with yak butter tradge to the old monasteries, and then spoon it into the flickering lamps that illuminate the great Buddhas. The pilgrims press their foreheads to the relics and sip holy water poured from a teapot by a monk in a rust-red robe.

The most pious of them prostrate themselves in the dust of the street to pray before they dare to enter the Jokang temple, the oldest and holiest shrine of Mahayana Buddhism.

Four years after the Chinese authorities lifted their ban on religious worship, Buddhism has been reborn in Tibet. Prayer flags flap from poles on mountain passes, from the few gnarled trees, even from the necks of laden yaks as talismans.

Hundreds of Tibetans in rough sheepskin garments, some with red twine in their hair and long daggers in their belts, converge daily on Lhasa after travelling for days and weeks from remote mountain and desert villages to visit the holy sites.

But most striking is the enduring veneration of the Dalai Lama, who fled to India 24 years ago after an uprising against Chinese rule failed.

Photographs of the religious leader adorn temple alters. In the streets of old Lhasa some young women wear his picture in amulets around their necks, and a few men show off small lapel buttons with the Dalai Lama's likeness.

Communist Party members and government workers must still be atheists, a Tibetan party member said. But other Tibetans may again practice the faith that has been synonymous with their culture.

Asked how many Tibetans still believed in Buddhism after 33 years under communism, the party member said about 100 per cent.

When China annexed Tibet in 1950, it appointed the Dalai Lama chairman of a commission preparing Tibet's transition to an autonomous region under Peking's control. After the 1959 rebellion was crushed, a drive to eradicate Buddhism got under way, reaching its worst excesses in the cultural revolution.

Most monasteries were destroyed. The Dalai Lama has said their number dropped from 3,700 to only 13. The Chinese have never disclosed figures, but Mr Ngapoi Ngawang Jigme, a Tibetan who lives in Peking and is a vice-chairman of the National people's Congress, admitted in *Beijing Review* last year that "the extent of the destruction was unprecendented in our history".

Indonesia expels two Russians

Jakarta – Indonesia has asked two Soviet dipomats known to be engaged in espionage activities to leave the country when their visas expire, security officials said, Our Correspondent writes.

The move, seen here as low-key in comparison to the expulsion of a deputy military attaché last year, came after the regional magazine *Asia Week* claimed its local correspondent had been offered money by a senior member of the Soviet Embassy in exchange for regular reports.

Neither the officials nor the Indonesian local press identifies the two diplomats by name. Diplomatic observers pointed out that Mr Mochtar Kusumaatmadja, the Indonesian Foreign Minister is due to visit the Soviet Union before the end of the year.

Calvi associate arrested

Milan (Reuter) – Signor Bruno Tassan Din, the former director of Italy's widely respected newspaper, *Corriere della Sera,* was arrested yesterday and charged with foreign exchange violations and complicity in last year's collapse of the Milan-based Banco Ambrosiano.

The arrest followed inquiries into loans of several million dollars alleged to have been channelled by the late Roberto Clavi the bank's managing director, to Signor Tassan Din through foreign associates.

Cricket fund nears target

Kingston (Reuter) – A Jamaican fund-raising drive to dissuade West Indian cricketers from playing in South Africa has almost reached its target of £100,000, Mr Edward Seaga, the Prime Minister, said.

The West Indies Cricket Board of Control asked regional governments to help to finance three-year contracts for about 22 players to carry out coaching and other promotional activities in the region.

Mercy mission

Dr Andrew Doig, the former Moderator of the Church of Scotland, flew to Malawi yesterday to plead with President Hastings Banda for the lives of Mr Orton Chirwa and his wife Vera, who are due to be executed for treason next Thursday.

Slick seen

Bahrain (Reuter) – An oil slick over half a mile in diameter has been spotted near Saudi Arabia's eastern coast. It is part of the huge slick from shattered Iranian wells in the Gulf war zone, and is likely soon to affect the Saudi industrial port of Jubail.

Chess clash



Grandmaster Victor Korchnoi (left) and the Soviet prodigy Gary Kasparov will meet in the world chess championship in the US later this year. The other semifinal between Zoltan Ribli of Hungary and Vasili Smyslov of the Soviet Union will meet in the United Arab Emirates.

Murder appeal

Johannesburg – An appeal by Mrs Maureen Smith, a British citizen sentenced to death in South Africa for the murder of her husband, will be heard by the appeal court in Bloemfontein on August 16.

Bombing truce

Paris (Reuter) – Corsican separatists have said they will observe a truce in their bombing campaign when President Mitterand visits the Mediterranean island in 10 days time.

Lost GIs hunt

Hanoi (AFP) – A delegation of four US military experts arrived in Hanoi for a third round of discussions on the American servicemen missing in action during the Vietnam war.

Suspects held

Rome (AP) – Police have arrested 17 suspected leftist terrorists and sympathizers near Rome and Naples in a new crackdown. Thirteen were picked up in southern Naples.

Holiday cheer

Paris (AFP)–The French Government will send 300 special financial inspectors to seaside and mountain resorts this summer to protect holiday-makers from being overcharged.

Correction

In yesterday's report from Warsaw the reference to a party report by Professor Hieronym Kubiak should have read: "It is now clear that the report will not be published."

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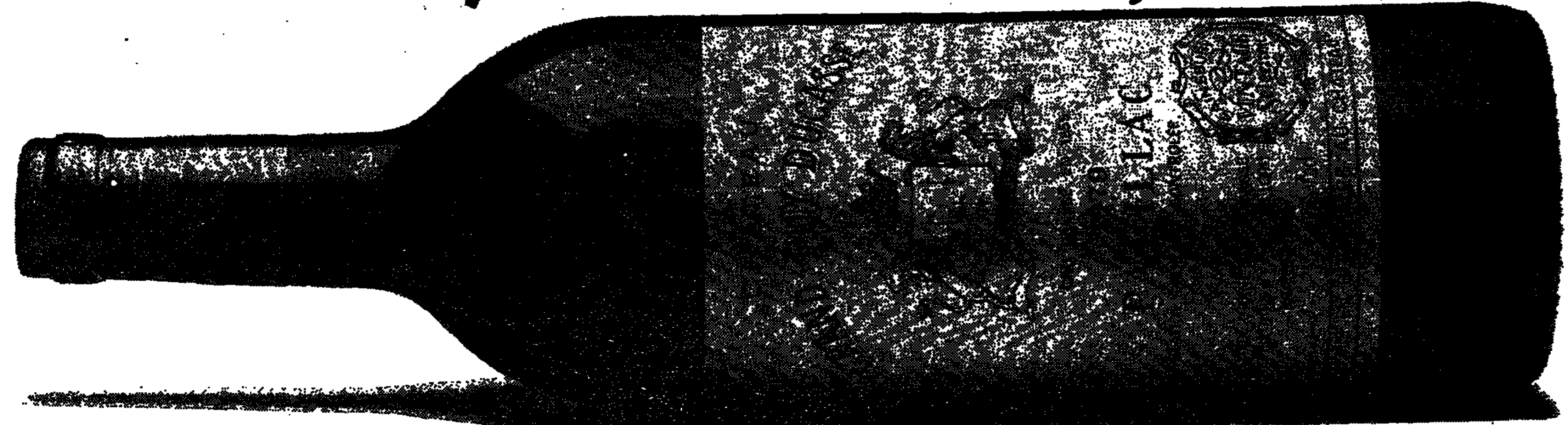
Lost GIs hun

Suspects held

Holiday cheer

Correction

Sainsbury's Vintage Selection. It reads like the wine list in a good restaurant. Until you come to the prices.



If you're a wine buff who's been buffeted by rising prices you'll welcome our Vintage Selection.

You'll find the quality familiar and the prices, quite often, nostalgic.

All twenty-nine wines have been tasted and tested by our wine buyers, who have been working, if you can call it work, on this selection for 12 months. (Over 600 wines were considered before the final selection was made.)

All of the wines are ready to drink now though some are suitable for laying down.

Many of them come with established reputations like the Puligny Montrachet or Château Grand Puy Ducasse.

Some are more unusual, like the delicious dessert wine Moulin Touchais from the Loire – or our dry red wine from Portugal called Quinta Da Bacalhôa.

Many are virtually exclusive to Sainsbury's and all bear our Vintage Seal on the label.

You'll find the complete list in 20 of our largest stores and a further 130 stores will carry a good selection.

We hope you'll enjoy reading about the wines below and that you'll be tempted to turn a wine list into something even more satisfying.

A shopping list.

1. Château Grand Puy Ducasse 1979 Pauillac.
A classic Claret from one of the most important communes in the Médoc. Full bodied with good fruit and tannin this wine will develop over the next three or four years into a fine wine of distinction. £7.45.

2. Château Jean-Fauré 1979 Grand Cru St. Émilion.
Like all St. Émilions this wine will drink younger than the great growth clarets and is already soft and fruity. The 1979 is delightfully drinkable and offers, along with elegant medium weight, a bouquet with a hint of violets. £5.45.



3. Château de Poncié 1981 Fleurie.
The true charm and distinction of one of the most delicate of the Beaujolais. Granite soil and the Gamay grape have combined in one of the more southerly Beaujolais villages to produce a wine which is soft, fruity and delicately perfumed. Superb with cold meats or cheese – but many would say with anything. £4.35.

4. Château Tourteau Chollet 1980 Graves.
Graves, a huge area of wine production to the south of Bordeaux is famed for its rich, slightly spicy red wines. Small proprietors abound in the area, producing wines which are firm when young and pay for keeping. Here is a pleasant fruity example of medium weight which will go happily with most meats or cheese. £3.60.

5. Château du Bousquet 1981 Côtes de Bourg.
Less well known than the Médocs which lie opposite, the wines of the Côtes de Bourg offer excellent value for money. The best of the slopes, near the river, include the vines from which this splendid example is formed. Although it will keep, it can be enjoyed now without hesitation. £3.20.

6. Gevrey Chambertin 1978.
Amongst the richest and most enduring of all the great Burgundies, this full-bodied and powerful wine, from the celebrated village on the slopes of the Côte de Nuits, will be enjoyed with the richer meats – a pheasant would be ideal. £8.95.

7. St. Amour 1980.
Produced on the granite soil of the most northerly of the nine nominated 'cru' villages which produce the best of the Beaujolais. St. Amour is fruity and fresh. £3.75.

8. Domaine de Palestor 1979 – Châteauneuf du Pape.
Châteauneuf du Pape is recognised the world over as the finest of the southern Rhônes. Dark, strong and long-lived. This is a fine example from the rocky vineyard of one of the leading growers and two or three years more bottle age will improve it. £5.25. (Coming shortly.)

9. Gigondas 1981.
Like its more famous neighbour Châteauneuf du Pape, Gigondas is a deep, hearty, robust red wine, taking its character from the Grenache grapes which predominate in the blend. It will hold its own with game, roasts, casseroles and all cheese dishes. £4.35.

10. Château la Borie – Rhône 1982.
This is the product of a vineyard which was totally replanted 20 years ago. (It has grown in reputation as a result.) The presence of Syrah and Granache in the blend gives the slight peppery sensation on the palate which is so characteristic of a Rhône wine. £2.99.



11. Château Barreyres 1979 Haut-Médoc.
The Médoc, on the west bank of the river, is the most important red wine district of Bordeaux. Here, from just north of the Margaux, is an excellent fruity claret of medium weight, which has been made with great care and would even improve with a few years bottle age. £3.55.

12. Domaine du Colombier 1982 Chinon.
Though less well-known there are some fine fresh light reds from the gravel soils of the Loire. This one has a distinct fruitiness and pleasant acidity. It is best drunk young and will happily accept a degree of chilling. £3.75.

13. Château de Gourgazaud 1980 – Minervois.
From the hilly country of the Languedoc-Roussillon but with more of the Cabernet Sauvignon grape than is usual. This makes for a distinctive medium-bodied wine of charm – robust enough for most meats and cheeses. £4.99. (Magnum.)

14. Clos de La Mouchère 1980 – Puligny Montrachet.
Another great classic dry French white wine. Produced to the north of Meursault and lacking some of its softness it is, perhaps, the ultimate accompaniment to oysters but enhances any fish or white meat. £8.45.

15. Domaine De La Bizolière 1982 Savennières.
The white Anjou wines to the western end of the Loire Valley are characteristically dry and full bodied – some say with the crispness of new apples. Here is a fine example, best drunk young and served chilled, it is slightly flowery with good acidity. £3.60.



16. Meursault Moillard 1980.
Meursault's Pinot Chardonnay grapes provide some of the world's great white wines. Rich, smooth and dry, but mellow. This is a fine example, soft and full, which will mature and improve for two or three years. £6.95.

17. Sancerre Les Perriers 1982.
This was a good year in the Loire, where the Sauvignon grapes grown on limestone produce elegant, dry white wines. This fresh and fruity wine from Verdigny Commune is best drunk young and slightly chilled. £4.65.

18. Moulin Touchais 1964 – Anjou.
The valley of the Loire shelters the Chenin Blanc vines from which are made some exceptional white wines. In the limestone 'caves' at Doué la Fontaine lies a huge selection of some of France's best kept wine secrets. Moulin Touchais is one. The perfect dessert wine with plenty of fruit and a balanced sweetness best revealed when chilled. £5.75.

19. Château Tertre du Moulin 1982 Entre-deux-Mers.
Between the 'two seas' of the Dordogne and the Garonne lies a vast area of wine production. The whites of this area are allowed the 'appellation'. Here is a crisp, fruity dry white wine from a grower with an established reputation for consistent quality. £2.75.

20. Clos St. Georges 1981 Graves Supérieures.
Long before Graves was known for the red wines with which it is now most associated, it had a high reputation for sweet white wines. Clos St. Georges is found on the borders of Barsac. It has depth, style and length, which come through impressively on the palate. £2.99.

21. Château de Beaulieu 1980 Côteaux Du Layon.
Beaulieu is one of only six communes in this sheltered area to the south of the Loire to be granted the 'appellation'. This is an exceptional medium sweet white wine with lots of fruit and an acidity of considerable length which give it great style and depth. At its best lightly chilled with fresh fruit. £2.80.

22. Muscat de Beaumes – De-Venise.
This is a naturally sweet white wine from the southern end of the Rhône Valley. The sun has ample time to develop the sugar and add a delicate perfume and flavour. A dessert wine of great distinction. £4.25.

23. Uerziger Würzgarten Auslese 1975 Moselle.
The Riesling wines of Würzgarten are sheltered by mountains and this fragrant and spicy sweet wine is produced from selected (auslese) grapes. Serve chilled with desserts or as a special aperitif. £5.99.



24. Domaine De La Bretonnerie 1982, Muscadet De Sèvre et Maine Sur Lie.
This Muscadet is named after two of the Loire's great tributaries. It has the added fruit and body which results from the grapes remaining longer on the vines ('sur lie'). Ideal with fish – especially shellfish. A light, dry and refreshing white wine. £2.99.

25. Kiedricher Heiligenstock Kabinett 1982 Rheingau.
From the pride of Germany's wineland come some splendid and white wines. This one is no exception. Elegant and well-balanced it is a distinguished accompaniment to most white meat and fish. £4.20.

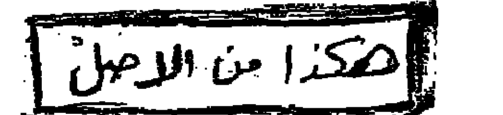
26. Deidesheimer Herrgottsacker Kabinett 1981 Rheinpfalz.
Wines from the Palatinate are rich, well flavoured, and lively and Deidesheimer is regarded as one of the best villages. This is a light medium dry white wine and versatile enough for fish, poultry or a chilled aperitif. £4.10.

27. Apetloner Gewürztraminer Beerenauslese 1981.
Specially selected and overripe grapes from the Gewürztraminer vines at Apetlon in the Burgenland of Austria, produce a wine of concentrated sweetness and depth to compare with the best of the Sauternes. Lightly chilled it makes a superb accompaniment to fruit or dessert. £4.95. (Coming shortly.)

28. Amarone Pasqua 1978.
This is a Recioto della Valpolicella – not to be confused with the more popular wine of the latter name. Only the grapes from the 'ears' of the vine which have begun to dry in the sun are used. The result is a dry red wine of high quality and full flavour. £3.95. (Coming shortly.)

29. Quinta da Bacalhôa 1981.
Portuguese red wines have been a rather well-kept secret for too long. This one produced from Cabernet Sauvignon grapes, matured in chestnut casks, is similar to a dry, red Bordeaux. Like all Portuguese reds, it will improve with keeping. £3.65.

Good wine costs less at Sainsbury's.



Recall of ambassador opens way for shift in Soviet policy

From Michael Binyon, Bonn

The recall to Moscow of Mr Pyotr Abrasimov, the Soviet Ambassador in East Berlin, marks the end of the career of one of the countrys most important and influential envoys abroad who has played a key role in formulating Soviet policy towards Germany, East and West, for the past 20 years.

Mr Abrasimov served two lengthy spells in East Berlin, from 1962 to 1971, and then again from 1975. In between he was briefly Soviet Ambassador in Paris, where his overbearing manner made a far from good impression.

In East Berlin he behaved virtually as a Soviet pro-consul, wielding enormous power behind the scenes and ensuring the Kremlin's views were decisive in determining East German policies, while loudly trumpeting the full independence and sovereignty of the East German state.

He began his first incumbency in the huge embassy in Unter Den Linden a year after the erection of the Berlin Wall, at a time when Moscow was trying to confine the application of the four-power status of Berlin to the western sectors only. He ended it with the drawing up of the four-power agreement in 1971, in the tough and drawn-out preparation of which he played a vital role.

The agreement was a main accomplishment of détente, leading to a marked easing of international tension and a large measure of normalization for West Berlin.

As a senior member of the Communist Party's Central Committee, he was a skilled and hard-line representative of Soviet policy. He met regularly the Bonn ambassador of Britain, France and the United States on all questions concerning Berlin.

In 1966, he also initiated regular contacts with the Chief Burgomeister of West Berlin, then Herr Willy Brandt, and still meets regularly Herr Richard Von Weizsäcker, the present mayor.

For the past three years he has been Dean of the Diplomatic Corps in East Berlin, a position he has used to advance Soviet policies in the name of all fellow diplomats.



Mr Abrasimov: Wielded enormous power.

His removal to head Intourist is a clear demotion. It could be simple retirement on grounds of age – he is now 71 – and in keeping with Mr Andropov's wish to shake up the senior party apparatus. Or it could suggest the Kremlin in considering a fresh approach to the German question, in light of the new government in Bonn and the steadily developing links between East and West Germany.

Mr Abrassimov always rejected any tentative proposals for a final settlement of the German question with rough abruptness.

● MOSCOW: There was puzzlement yesterday in Moscow over the reported dismissal of Mr Abrasimov, Richard Owen writes.

His replacement was announced by Moscow radio, but not by Tass, which normally carries announcements of appointments and dismissals. The move was not mentioned in any Soviet newspapers yesterday.

Officials were unable to shed light on the affair, and some were apparently taken by surprise. Sources said the downfall of Mr Abrasimov was a personal demotion, and was not part of a change in Soviet policy toward East and West Germany.

Russian probe for Venus

Moscow (Reuter) – The Soviet Union yesterday launched an unmanned spacecraft towards Venus designed to carry out research on the atmosphere and surface of the planet, Tass reported.

The probe, Venus 15, will reach Venus in early October and go into orbit. The reference to surface research suggested the craft, like its most recent predecessors, was carrying a smaller probe which would land on the planet.

The Venus 13 and 14 probes, which reached Venus within a few days of each other in March last year, landed small modules which sent back photographs and data from analysis of rock samples before burning up.

Modest Cabinet reshuffle by Malaysian Premier

From M. G. G. Pillai, Kuala Lumpur

Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, the Malaysian Prime Minister, yesterday reshuffled his Cabinet by bringing in four new ministers and appointing five new deputy ministers and four parliamentary secretaries.

No dramatic changes were noted, and only one minister was moved to another portfolio when Tan Sri Chong Hon Nyan went from Health to Transport.

Given Dr Mahathir's almost Thatcherite approach to government, many had expected a more dramatic reshuffle, but he opted to go along with the traditional, evolutionary changes in the administration.

The changes were caused by the resignation of four Cabinet ministers, and deputy ministers

The full cabinet is as follows:

Prime Minister and Defence: Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad. Deputy Prime Minister and Home Affairs: Datuk Musa Hitam. Housing and Local Government: Datuk Neo Yee Pan. Works and Utilities: Datuk Samy Vellu. Foreign Affairs: Tan Sri Ghazali Shafie. Welfare Services: Datin Paduka Aishah Abdul Ghani.

Trade and Industry: Tunku Ahmad Rithaudeen. Finance: Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah. Transport: Tan Sri Chong Hon Nyan. Primary Industries: Datuk Paul Leong Khee Seong. Agriculture: Datuk Abdul Manan Othman. Energy, Telecommunications and Posts: Datuk Leo Moggie. Public Enterprises: Datin Paduka Rafidah Aziz. Education: Datuk Sulaiman Haji Daud. Land and Regional Development: Datuk Rais Yatim. National and Rural Development: Datuk Sanusi Junid.

Labour and Manpower: Datuk Mak Hon Kam. Information: Datuk Adib Adam. Science, Technology and Environment: Datuk Stephen Yong. Health: Datuk Chin Hon Ngian. Federal Territory: Datuk Shahrir Abdul Samad. Culture, Youth and Sports: Anwar Ibrahim. Ministers in the Prime Minister's Department: Datuk Abdullah Ahmad Badawi and Datuk James Ongkili.

Letter from Berlin

A bird's-eye view of the infamous Wall

You see the absurdity of it best from 1,000 ft up. Below us was one of several East German enclaves sticking into West Berlin. A wire fence sealed off the back doors of a dozen modest villas set among the trees, beyond it a strip of raked soil and then the infamous concrete Wall, which zigzags around the western sectors of the old capital for 102 miles.

"They must be party trusties," the pilot told me over the intercom. "Imagine looking straight into the windows of West Berlin neighbours each day."

He swung the helicopter carefully round the demarcation line: we did not want to stray into East German airspace and provoke a diplomatic incident with the Russians. Luckily the 7 Flight Army Air Corps, which carries out these random Wall patrols almost every day, knows the boundaries by heart. Even so, mistakes can easily be made when the Wall sometimes takes short cuts and leaves isolated patches of abandoned East German territory on the western side.

West Berlin has its enclaves, too. In the American sector, we suddenly dived down to hover low over a road that leads out to Steinstücken, a picturesque but somehow unreal village – once part of Greater Berlin – that was an island in East German territory. Allied troops used to ferry in people and supplies by helicopter, and a couple of blades on a patch of grass mark their former landing site.

But now there is a lifeline – a road, hemmed in by high walls on either side, that links the village to West Berlin. It was exchanged after the 1971 four-power treaty for Western territory elsewhere. We flew exactly between the walls, circled round Steinstücken and flew back.

Farther on there is another absurdity: a clump of West Berlin trees marooned between the Wannsee lake and the Wall. Access is through an almost surrealistic door in the Wall, with a bell to summon an East German border guard to escort you across the raked death strip – not mined, contrary to popular belief – and through another hole in the Wall to the few square yards of West Berlin.

One of 260 East German watchtowers was strategically placed to watch over the lake, where white border markers bobbed up and down. On the western side there are dozens of sailing boats, people basking on the beaches in summer.



Beyond the markers the River Havel and the Wannsee are deserted.

Fourteen thousand elite East German border troops permanently man the Wall. We saw their barracks in the distance and also several large Soviet bases. Here and there a detachment was engaged on strengthening the already formidably fortified frontier.

Hovering over Spandau, I saw the famous brick prison, which seemed to be in a state of virtual collapse. In a little white hut in the grounds its sole inmate, Rudolf Hess, now 89, sits in the sun on his half-hour walks. I did not spot him, and was not allowed to take photographs ("allied regulations," I was told).

Farther north we checked in at Tegel airport in the French sector. The British do most of the Wall patrols on behalf of all three allies. The French do not have helicopters in Berlin. No West German is allowed in the skies over Berlin, so we had the air to ourselves.

In the industrial north we passed factories that back right on to the Wall, railway tracks that run between several sets of walls and a long inner wall that for some reason cuts off East Berlin from the border Wall – probably to make escapes harder, though there have been over 186,000 since the Wall went up in 1961. In the first 20 years there were also 3,082 East Germans arrested at the Wall, and 71 people killed on the border.

Wheeling inwards over the high-rise flats where West Berlin's Turks live, we came to the gold-painted historic victory column from where the road leads to the Brandenburg Gate. Beyond it lies East Berlin.

In the inner city the Wall is harder to spot as it zigzags between buildings. The death strip is narrower but the watch towers more frequent. We passed former stations and rotting railway sidings, abandoned by their East German owners. The pulsing life on Kurfürstendamm with its lines of cars seemed in curious contrast to the silent borders. Away to the south-west the cars streamed out from one of the exit points through the Wall to the *Autobahns* to West Germany.

Michael Binyon

Prosecutor demands life term for ex-SS man

Berlin (Reuter) – Herr Horst Bosse, the East German state prosecution, yesterday demanded life imprisonment for Heinz Barth, aged 62, a former SS oficer on trial in East Berlin on charges of war crimes and crimes against humanity.

Herr Barth sat motionless in court on the last day of the trial as Herr Busse said that the he had taken part in the "cold-blooded execution of Nazi extermination policies".

Herr Barth has admitted involvement in killings in Czechoslovakia and atOradour-sur-Glane, France, in the second World War. Sentence is due next Thursday.

"The seriousness of the crimes and the weight of personal responsibility demand that the accused be excluded for ever from socialist society. I propose that Heinz Barth be sentenced to life imprisonment and be deprived for ever of his civil rights," Herr Busse concluded an 80-minute summary of the evidence.

On Monday Herr Barth wept in court as he admitted killing by machine gun fire 20 men in a garage at Oradour, among the 642 villagers massacred on June 10, 1944, in reprisal for the capture by the French resistance of a Nazi major.

He also admitted shooting, or standing guard as others shot 92 partisans in Lidice, Czechoslovakia, in 1942. Herr Busse said that the crimes were "excerpts from a ghastly whole, part of a terrible inferno, components of a bestial terror system". Herr Barth's assertion that he was obeying orders was no defence.

He had volunteered for death squads at Lidice, where he was a member of a police battalion. At Oradour, when he was an SS lieutenant, he was one of those who had given the orders for the encirling and destruction of the village, Herr Busse went on.

He added that Herr Barth had avoided detection after the war because he had faked his service record and used a 1939 civilian identity card.

He returned to Gransee, where he was born, north of Berlin, after the war and was a textiles buyer for the state retailing concern Konsum until his arrest in 1981. He was detected by analysis of wartime records.

"Barth well knew that these killings, after the defeat of the fascists, would be punished", Ken Busse said.

One prosecutor used his summary to attack West Germany for failing to try many suspected war criminals.

THE ARTS

Cinema

Goodies and baddies for children of all ages

Return of the Jedi (U)
Leicester Square Theatre; Odeon, Marble Arch; Dominion

The Hunger (18)
ABC, Shaftesbury Avenue

Jacques Becker season
National Film Theatre

The *Star Wars* films are not – like the *Grease IIs*, the *Hallowe'en IIIs* and *Rocky IVs* – sequels and spin-offs, but constitute a continuing serial. George Lucas, who remains the guiding hand as producer and principal writer, whoever the director may be (this time it is Richard Marquand), plans a cycle of nine episodes in all. *Star Wars, The Empire Strikes Back* and *Return of the Jedi* represent episodes 4, 5 and 6. In the old days of course serials came out weekly; but these three parts were released respectively in 1977, 1980 and 1983. At this rate, of three-year intervals, not all of us will still be around to see how things turn out in chapter nine. Even the youngest patrons of the original *Star Wars* will be taking their own children to see a middle-aged Luke Skywalker and his rusting robots.

Lucas's declared intention had been to return to the style and naive pleasures of the weekly exploits of Flash Gordon and Captain Marvel; and true to the authentic method, the individual episodes tend to be reprises with variations rather than actual progressions of a story. Luke and his chums are still doing battle with the evil usurper Emperor and his creature Darth Vader; and the donouement is the inevitable frenzied battle in space. This time the Emperor and Darth Vader are definitely conquered. The serial is planned in three triptych cycles: for the others (again true to the conventions of the form) new villians will be found.

In approach and style there is some change for the worse, though it is unlikely to affect the preprogrammed appeal of the series. Special effects have more and more taken over from the human interest. The credits for technical work are now endless; and the effects become ever more marvellous in every department, whether the creation of space hardware, grotesque primeval monsters or cute and cuddly Disneyesque pets.

The invented creatures are a lot more enjoyable than the humans who are always strictly two-dimensional, and whose relationships are now sketchier than ever. There is certainly more fun to be had with the denizens of the demonic disco in *Star Wars* who now form the court of a huge dragon monster called Jabba. With his enormous, scaly, toad-like head, sitting gross, greedy and flatulent, meting out death and torture, gobbling up his smaller subjects and toying lecherously with captive maidens, he might have been invented by Tenniel for an X-rated *Alice*.



Dragon monster Jabba in Return of the Jedi; he might have been invented by Tenniel for an X-rated Alice

The film remains a cunning and prodigal synthesis of every kind of popular myth. There are vague memories of classical legend in the basic story of a brother who risks falling in love with the sister whose identity he does not know, and who discovers in the same moment that the man whom it is his destiny to kill is in fact his own father. The mystical sources of The Force, Darth Vader's atonement, and Luke's cries to his father in the extremities of torture have echoes of Christian lore. There are once again nods to the Hitlerian pageantry of *Triumph of the Will*. Vader's funeral pyre looks even like a small homage to *Gandhi*.

The conflicts intermittently take on the style of Western or of Sword-and-Sorcery. The bad people are in their appearance amalgams of all the things we hate: Nazis, traffic cops, Mao suits. The latest addition to the good people is a tribe of teddy bears who sometimes carry on like Robin Hood and his Merry Men and at others like comic cannibals from strip cartoons. Aimed with deadly calculation at the child in all of us, *Return of the Jedi* estimates our mental age – no doubt quite accurately – at around six and a half.

At the moment of high euphoria for British cinema, poor Tony Scott exemplifies the casualties of the bad times (before Channel Four) when even the most promising directors had small chance of exercising their craft. More than a decade ago Scott made an excellent and original low-budget film, financed by the British Film Institute, called *Loving Memory*. The years of waiting between then and *The Hunger* have been spent at the treadmill of commercials; and his new film goes to show the taint which too much of that can lay on talent and vision. Technically faultless, the film at every moment has the trashy chic of an extended commercial for cosmetics or soft furnishings, though more often it seems to be selling cigarettes.

Not that the screenplay gives any encouragement to do better. Adapted from a novel by Whitney Strieber which is clearly to be avoided, it is a fairly incoherent tale of mysticism, magic and horror. Catherine Deneuve is a beautiful vampire who has ensured millennia of immortality by constantly appeasing The Hunger for blood. Susan Sarandon is a doctor with a more scientific interest in logevity and aging. David Bowie's rather brief appearance as a lover-victim of Deneuve with a bad case of rapid aging provides the film's most consoling moments. The make-up men and Bowie's clever mime make quite a feat out of the aging; and the film almost rises to a touch of humour with the scene of Bowie growing several hundred years older in a doctor's waiting room.

It is still very small compensation for all the other flashy silliness, and the effortful erotica of a nude lesbian-vampire encounter between Deneuve and Sarandon - both of whom are actresses far too attractive to have this wished upon them.

The National Film Theatre's French year moves on this month to a complete retrospective of the 13 films completed by Jacques Becker. Becker (1906-1960), consistently made films that were and remain enjoyable, and made his own strong contribution to the prestige and popularity of the French cinema in the post-war decade. He almost became an actor: he played in Jean Renoir's *Boudu sauvé des eaux*, and King Vidor wanted to take him off to Hollywood and make a star of him.

Instead Becker stayed on to be assistant to Renoir and Renoir's example undoubtedly helped shape his own appreciation of character, of milieu, of the interaction of groups. Even trifles like a comedy vehicle of Fernandel, *Ali Baba*, have their own style; and films that look like trifles – *Falbalas*, set in a Parisian fashion house, or *Rue de L'Estrapade* – often intimate unsuspended depths. *Rue de L'Estrapade* was the third and least successful of the marital comedies by which Becker is today best remembered.

The NFT season is also a chance to experience again Becker's uniquely evocative period reconstructions, whether the *belle epoque* of *Les Aventures de Arsène Lupin*, the world of the Apaches and their women in *Casque d'Or*, the eve of the twenties in *Montparnasse 19* or Becker's own contemporary France in *Rendezvous de Juillet*. Not to be missed, above all, is Becker's last film, *Le Trou*, the story of an attempted prison break which is a virtuoso exercise in suspense, created within unities of time and place.

David Robinson

Television

Norman Mailer at Sixty (BBC 2) has been compared to Mount Rushmore, but really he looks more like Fred Flintstone. He is the primeval innocent, aggrieved when the rocks are thrown at him but strong enough to throw them straight back. Last night's documentary took as its occasion the publication of his most recent novel *Ancient Evenings*, which was described as a "magnum opus of old Egypt"; since it seemed to consist entirely of sodomy, violence, orgies and gang rape it might just as well have been a magnum opus of contemporary New York.

With his combination of naivety and self-projection, vulnerability and combativeness, Mailer himself is very much part of his own culture. There he was, on a bulletin board announcing coming attractions, alongside Bodytone, Dancerobics and Karate. Some writers work steadily inward, like wireworms of the spirit, but Mailer keeps on moving outward, engorging great quantities of American life and then spitting them out with affectionate distaster. Frank Delaney, who interviewed him for the programme, has the ability to ask easy questions which are in fact hard to answer; as a result, although this was a "celebratory" study of the man, it was somewhat more sceptical about the writer.

In **Nobody Minded the Rain . . . Impressions of Coronation Day** (BBC 2), those of us not versed in Coronation lore discovered that the Queen herself was responsible for the presence of television cameras in Westminster Abbey, the Prime Minister and Cabinet having first rejected the idea. She was truly the child of our age – or, risking paradox, her age.

So was this programme itself, since it devoted a great deal of attention to the role of modern communications in the Great Event. As the commentator said, in the anodyne terms usually reserved for travelogues in the cimena, "It was television's day." Extra transmitters were erected to reach previously inaccessible parts of the country, facilities were arranged to broadcast pictures across the Channel, and advertisements on how to "Build Your Own Television" appeared in the press. Twenty million people watched the ceremony, and this blessed union of religion, statehood and the BBC proved once again that the great strength of historical rituals of this kind is that they survive by assimilation.

Peter Ackroyd

Concert

BBC SO/Ashkenazy
Festival Hall

If the cancellation, due to Giulini's illness, of the Los Angeles Philharmonic concerts was something of a disappointment, then their replacement, if Wednesday's first Brahms Festival concert was anything *to* go by, is certainly not.

At the start of a three-day session of Brahms concertos, and chamber music marathons, Gidon Kremer gave a performance of the Violin Concerto that ought to make history. The BBC Symphony Orchestra under Vladimir Ashkenazy had put its cards on the table in a forcefully driven yet generously lyrical Tragic Overture; and a similar balance of steady impetus, bold assertion and lyrical ease characterized the concerto.

This was the bodywork against which Mr Kremer played out a reading of such expressive detail and breadth that, by the end of the first movement, it was difficult to imagine that any more could be said. His is playing that stretches from top to toe whether he is crouching over to seek the harmonic heart of his double-stopping or leaning out towards *his* audience to share the confidence of the tiniest sequential patterning.

After a remarkably dark, searching cadenza, the slow movement was played, wisely, for lighter relief, the violin svelte, the windband almost intrusive.

There was little chance for Mr Kremer to steal the light in the Double Concerto. The playing of his compatriot, Mischa Maisly, can also be larger than life, as his recently recorded Franck Sonata shows. It was also evident in both his broad groundswell in the Andante, and the big heart he drew from his Finale solo. He can find, too, a velvet-gloved *sotto voce* and chamber-musical finesse

Hilary Finch

Dance

The Seasons
Coliseum

The first new production of Festival Ballet's London season was given on Wednesday night: Glazunov's *The Seasons* in a production by Ronald Hynd that was first shown by the Houston Ballet in 1980. The music is glorious stuff for dancing, a cascade of rich melodies in sumptuous, sugary orchestrations, as sinfully irresistible as the best pralines.

I find it surprising that Hynd and his designer, Peter Docherty, thought this score suited to anything other than tutus and the most splendid of pure classic display, such as Ashton provided when he used some of the tunes in *Birthday Offering*. Instead, they have gone for all-over tights and choreography that is often all over the floor, with the dancers sitting, lying or rolling. Perhaps they thought to offset the music's sweetness, instead of exploiting it.

With the orchestra in fair form under Graham Bond, however, Glazunov carries the day, and the public is obviously delighted to see so many and so much of the dancers. The ostensible theme is not taken very seriously, and I imagine it never was, from Petipa's 1900 staging onwards. The idea is simply to have an excuse to bring on one group of dancers after another.

The star of the show, as the Spirit of the Seasons (whatever that may be) is Koen Onzia, a recent recruit from Antwerp. A short, slight young man, he whizzes and zooms round the stage at every break in the succession of other dancers. These include quite a few of the company's leading members; Patricia Ruanne and Manola Asensio stalwartly borne around by Jay Jolley and Jonas Kaage as, respectively, Summer and Autumn, with Deborah Weiss and Maurizio Bellezza more playfully representing Spring.

Hynd's principle seems to have been to pile on the effects rather than bother much with subtleties of stylization or structure. When that involves whirling the women like catherine wheels round their partners' shoulders, or parading them as high as the arms will lift, everyone goes to it with energy and enthusiasm, and the same for all the jumping, whirling and balancing in between. You get a lot of steps for your money.

John Percival

Theatre

Donald Cooper



Elizabeth MacLennan, "gently implacable"

Vertical take-off

Men Should Weep
Royal, Stratford East

When a long-neglected play from the old Unity Theatre repertory is rediscovered in the author's lifetime, revived by a director of international reputation, and swept into London on a tide of Scottish acclaim, it is hard to present it as anything other than a deserving cause.

But as soon as you start dwelling on Ena Lamont Stewart's affinity with O'Casey, and saluting her study of Glaswegian tenement life in the 1930s for its humane testimony and grim relevance to modern Britain, the response is to be one of dutiful assent followed by a stampede for the exit.

I do not know how *Men Should Weep* appeared to its original 1947 audiences. But its success in Giles Havergal's 7.84 company production is that it departs totally from all the old conventions of the Socialist stage. Here we have Maggie, worn out with her scrubbing job and looking after seven children and an unemployed husband, but still unsoured and full of love for them all. She is a splendid, wholly credible woman; but it would be an insult to call her an heroic working-class matriarch.

Then there is the rest of the family; the runaway daughter, the disastrously married son, parasite granny, and the swaggeringly unmanned head of the household. You can like and dislike all of them in different ways; but so far as the play is concerned, they are given no alibi for their mistakes and cruelties. It is for the audience to draw the wider social lesson.

There are some fierce domestic rows and one near-fatal stabbing; but what is most remarkable about the piece is its wealth of really funny lines, and the fact that it avoids all censuriousness towards a group of characters who are incessantly judging each other.

If ever there were a claustrophobic box set around them, no trace of it survives in the free air of this production. On Geoff Rose's stage, the Morrisons occupy a ramshackle downstage area, backed by a grimy concrete skyline haunted by spying neighbours, snogging couples, and late-night rowdies; while members of the family double as a chorus of gossips and other figures from the outside.

With the exception of one small boy, age is presented entirely through acting, with the handsome young Jo Cameron Brown emitting bird-like squawks as the senile granny, clamping boneless gums on any passing sweet and clasping her pension book in palsied talons.

The aim, superbly achieved, is to dispel emotional intensity, and divert attention from these people as individuals to the conditions in which they are compelled to live. And instead of the plod of naturalistic narrative there are side-lit tableaux, explosions of brilliantly lit energy, bold groupings (as where all the women line up down-stage for cake-nibbling courtship confessions), and moments of vertical take-off into lurid violence and volcanic farce.

In short, Mr Havergal has effected a triumphant marriage between the allegedly decadent style of the Citizens' Theatre and the wholesome virtues of the old Labour stage. Acknowledging that, the sharpest memory is of the richly eloquent Glasgow dialogue, and of Elizabeth MacLennan's gently implacable central performance.

Irving Wardle

Thrilling chasms of mood and style

Nightshade
Birmingham Rep Studio

A central curtained recess bathed in purple light and throbbing organ music; is this a crematorium or a variety theatre? For magician-mortician John Quinn, it is both. But for all the funereal bric-a-brac, Stewart Parker's dark comedy is a play of great tenderness. The rubicund, middle-aged Quinn (Kenny Ireland) lost his wife, first by desertion then by death. Playing Miranda to his Prospero is his devilish daughter Delia, always ready to enter the case that he sticks full of swords, and feign a bloody accident to frighten him.

Their family doctor (June Brown), is a dry old bird with an invalid father, making unconventional arrangements for her own approaching death and subsequently sniggering quietly from the coffin as the conventional cosmetic and panegyrics are laid on regardless. Miss Brown's superb unsmiling wit is matched by Deborah Norton as Delia's elegantly frustrated headmistress.

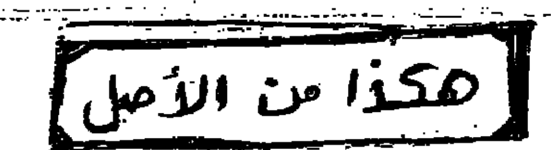
But Delia herself, hyper-perceptive to the point of other worldliness adds the spiritual dimension to the story. Crop-haired and *gamine*, Madeline Church fills that impossible demand, though her quicksilver movements go over the top at times.

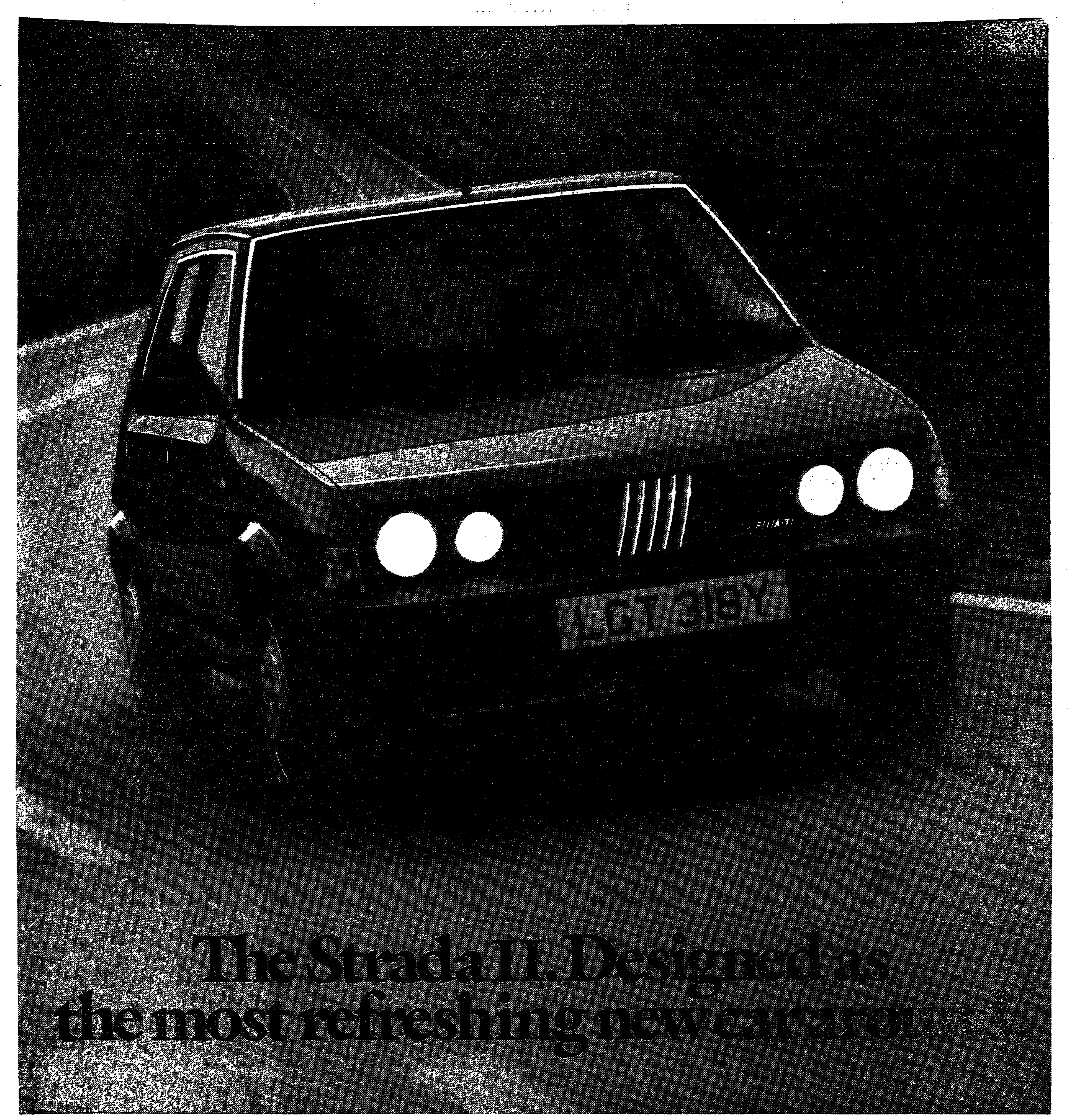
She is haunted by two tales, The Sleping Beauty and Jacob's Wrestling Match with the Angel, whose relevance to her father's marriage, and the two father-daughter relationships in the play, graually becomes apparent. In this house devoted to death, a lifetime's frustrating struggles appear as a living death that mocks any date on a coffin.

Sometimes the play seems to lose its way, but strokes of invention are usually round the corner. "Nothing special. My father was groping my headmistress and I was watching from a coffin", Delia explains, and the same itch dominates her father's new assistant, a physics graduate progressing from the Law of Falling Bodies to laying them out, dead and alive. "You're dismissed", the headmistress says after sexual intercourse. "I thought *you* just were", comes the punning reply.

Kenny Ireland, taking over the lead at short notice, sails expertly though the satirical humour, pathos and conjuring tricks alike. And Peter Farago's production walks the tightrope over the play's thrilling chasms of mood and style.

Anthony Masters





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هكذا من الأصل

SPECTRUM

A chop off the old block



MODERN TIMES
A short back and sideways look at the British way of life

I am writing to you from Snippets in the High Street, and if I wander from the point occasionally that is because I am ... not too much off the front please. Yes, that's about right.

This is Karen. She is as bored as I am apprehensive, which is very. The first time I went to one of these flash dentists, I mean hairdressers, I put my knee on the chair where my bottom should have gone, and leaned over, forelock first, into the basin. A bad start, you say, but not as bad as the finish; I came out looking like a spiky rat, freshly drowned. I made straight for the swimming pool, as I shall after this session, to wreck fashion through the healing, timeless properties of chlorine and a municipal towel. You may think that I ... perhaps not quite so much off the back. Oh, you've done it. *Fine.*

Karen here tells me she has spent four years training for this. I am flattered of course, but a voice inside tells me that pilots spend just as long learning to fly, and VC10s still crash. Karen is the one in italics:

"Ooo, it's in terrible condition."

"Sorry."

"When did you last have it done?"

"Pass."

"Mmmm"

My mother used to cut my father's hair, and I use the word advisedly, for he had but one. Most of the time she was pretty adroit, although there was one terrible occasion when she went for the hair and missed. There was a click of scissors and a piece of ear flew like a finger nail into the corner of the room.

I understand that hair grows six feet a day. It would be a grand thing – though not for the trade, I admit – if all this push could concentrate itself in a single strand.

But we are imperfect – Karen's not too brilliant either. Suddenly I am looking terribly lopsided. A stroke perhaps. This place Snippets used to be a butcher's and I suppose some of the cutting finesse must have imbued itself into the ... ouch. No, I'm sorry, but that actually hurt.

When I was a boy it was all so simple. Candy-striped spirals twirled on the corner of every parade, and for half a crown you could come out looking like Dennis Compton. Whatever could have happened to those sound and basic practitioners when the sixties started swinging (they have a lot to answer for) and long hair demanded its new technologists? Did they *all* go off to Eastbourne and Tunbridge Wells, where the demand for short back and sides was still brisk? I think we should be told.

There are those who say that the hairdresser's function has an interface with that of the analyst; that there is some vital nerve linking the scalp with the soul; that the massaging of the one unlocks the secrets of the other. I must be deficient here for I would no sooner lodge my intimacies with Karen than I would have my children kennelled for the holidays. My problem entirely, I know, for the air is crackling with talk of infidelity, real or imagined.

The woman on my right is being crimped into some bizarre confection. She looks like the planning stage for a main dish, with her hair packed into a million twists of silver foil. It must be costing her. Surely she is not walking home in this state as she would be a must for any old flash of lightning. Her Kenny has been playing around. He came home the other night with long scratches down his back and love bites glowing in the soft of his shoulder (although he was so drunk that he tried to pass these off as symptoms of Dutch Elm disease). Now she is taking revenge on him, and her first step is to punish him visually. It could backfire dreadfully.

I shall be resolute. I shall not fire off some inane line like "My wife doesn't understand me" for the sake of conformity. Actually it is true: she doesn't understand me, any more than I do. Who but a thoroughgoing prune would blue £8.00 (no, I am not claiming it on expenses) for this sort of .... I didn't know my ears were that shape.

Why am I the only bloke here? Don't answer that.

These unisex places reek of the mark-up rationale; a woman's hair costs more to do than a man's, but, in the bold egalitarianism of the salon, disparities should be kept to a minimum. Hence the eight quid. Now if I hadn't decided years ago not to look like Liberace I might yet put them through their paces.

And another thing. What happened to the quiff? I have a friend called Cottle who is a lonely conservationist in the field, but then he is very short and needs the inches. He has developed his own fish-based agent with which to fix his naturally limp forelock. Every morning he scoops it and sculpts it endlessly, and as he walks to the station it rears above him like a Malibu roller. But it has the durablility of a brandy snap, and the first gust of following wind reduces it to a glistening splatter across his face.

Brush strokes on the neck tell me the job is done. A flash of the profile in the hand mirror tells me I am perhaps not here at all, but sewing mail bags in Crown accommodation, for my old hedge of hair is shorn, sheared and shed. I am bepunked.

At the door, who should I pass on his way in but Cottle, finally delivering himself to the professionals. Don't do it, Cottle. Don't be a fool, man. But he does not recognize me. There is hope for me yet. Thank you Karen.

Alan Franks



ROBIN SACHS
actor, married to Sian Philips

"I tend to be cast in upper class parts – Old Etonian, RAF or as I was in *Brideshead*. I don't even have to show David a photograph or discuss the character with him – he just knows what to do. Mine isn't the easiest hair – it curls when it's long, frizzes in the rain. It takes half an hour to cut and finger dry, or I go under the infra-red lamp. David's a strong person without being heavily flamboyant – we joke a lot, find out what the other is doing, talk quite a bit about clothes: in jackets and suits we have similar tastes.... David understands that it's as important for a man as for a woman to have his hair and head looking good."

DAVID BEDI
of Ricci Burns

"Though *he* finds it difficult, he's actually got very nice hair to work with – a natural curl, nice movement. The wonderful thing about Robin is that he is a great communicator and he's on the ball. He likes gardens, goes to the gym, takes an interest in clothes and though age is a barrier only if you have absolutely *nothing* in common it's nice that we are of a similar age. He's always cheerful, happy, though sometimes he's a bit tense. You can tell by the scalp, you know. All scalps tighten with tension (though the average housewife's is looser) and it's very important for men, who aremoreprone to hair loss. Tension and tight follicles kill hair. In the series before last Robin was very tense and I gave him a number of excercises to relieve this .... If I haven't seen him for a while a built-in alarm clock tells me he's due – I'd never ring though. That would be unethical."



ZANE GRIFF
singer/actor

"Kevin usually comes to me. At the moment *I'm quite blond, long on top,* cut into the structure underneath in a sort of art deco way. It falls differently on both sides from the crown and I have a sort of cow's lick on one side – Kevin gets the balance right. In the past five years it's changed about 15 times – it used to be *very* long, when I hid behind my hair. Kevin persuaded me I didn't need to – I was really frightened of going shorter but he nursed me through it. He's not like some hairdressers who cut for the sake if it – if it only needs a couple of clips he'll fix it. He's got style – you can see it in his person. I'd follow him to the outskirts of London. If he went to Manchester I'd grow it long again."

KEVIN THORP
ex-Michael John, now freelance.

"For someone like Zane it's very important that his hair should interpret his whole personality, his music, how he feels. It's basically very thick, strong and he used to wear it too long. Over the years he's been mauve, blond, jet black (a colour change takes about two hours) – very very short and long and curly. It changes according to his mood – what LP he's doing, what film he's making – and I understand that. He's very receptive to different approaches and he trusts me completely. We talk about it a lot. When he gets fed up, I say look Zane, you should change your looks. Getting it right matters to him – and to me. Doing his hair is *interesting:* he's always into something new."



ALEX TELFORD
Silversmith, lecturer at Sir John Cass College

"He came up to me in a pub and said 'Did you know your hair's a real mess?'. Previously I had only found good hairdressers in France. Here I always came out with a permanent-press V or looking like Joan of Arc. Francis is like a good doctor – he has amazing patience, knows exactly what to do with my hair without me saying a word. (With most you can't look in the mirror for days.) And I don't have to talk about football or TV, like some of those little men's places where you feel you have to buy a packet of contraceptives. I'd follow him anywhere but Australia, where he comes from, or America where he's threatened to go to! A real find – and friend."

FRANCIS BATES
of Capelli

"If you let his hair go he would look just like and Old English sheepdog. In fact his dogs are very similar. Actually he has got wonderful hair – thick and wiry, sort of silver grey with a black streak, but it does need careful cutting. They used to scissor cut it which made it stick out like a carnation. I'd seen him about for years and I used to think why doesn't that guy *do* something with himself; if only I could get my hands on his hair."

TONY CASH
producer/director of programmes for the South Bank Show

"I used to go to Sweeney's – basically a man's hairdresser – then my wife pointed out that Annie Russell did men too. I was a little disconcerted the first time to find I was the only man there, that's all. Mario's a good hairdresser and the King's Road is very convenient. I book an early appointment – it takes 25 minutes in and out on the way to work. I don't attach much importance to hair really – mine's rather greasy, like an adolescent without the Brylcreem – and I'm receding slightly at the front ...Mario talks about everything under the sun."

MARIO ANTONELLI
of Annie Russell

"In the early 1960s men didn't come into salons but all that's changed. I do Tony, his wife and their children. Tony's hair is staight, fine – and he has a tricky hair line. In the old days you'd have taken clippers to it. He's quite conventional, but certainly not "short back and sides". A nice guy, highly intelligent, warm, with no frontiers, no snobbery. He reads the paper has a cup of coffee and we talk – about television, cable the new technology, music politics. A male hairdresser has a different relationship with a male client, more like schoolboys, pals perhaps."



STEPHEN KOMLOSY
Financier, married to Parti Boulez

"Male or female is irrelevant. Angelina has a tremendous reputation in men's hairdressing. I think it's ten years now: it took about three to teach her how to do it – I used to have a parting. Angelina kept grumbling, then my wife. They changed that between them ...A good hairdresser's rather like a good tailor – they persuade you gently. I try to go at lunchtime so as not to waste time. I have a sandwich and read. Angelina talks. She fancies herself as a bit of a mystic – she rabbits away but has the uncanny habit of often being right."

ANGELINA BOSCO
in charge of the men's salon at Leonard's

"He's got lovely hair – blond and a lot of it – in fact he's a lovely person, looks after himself, jogs, swims and he's a vegetarian. But not vain. Did you know he's a Hungarian aristocrat – he didn't tell me, I had to dig it out. He's very quiet, very pale in hair, smart in style – nice jewelry, a good watch, case, clothes, you know what I mean. He's a very good client – always on time and that does help. A gentle person. I've never seen him lose his temper. We never saw eye to eye on his parting – it was *awful.*"

Judy Froshaug

FLAVIA CORKSCREW'S GOOD FOOD GUIDE ★★★
FLAVIA IS ON THE FARM SCRUTINIZING THE POTATO SITUATION:
It's been too wet to get the potatoes in Flavia. By July they'll be £2.80 per lb.!
By August it will be cheaper to eat the money, and more nutritious–
...Luckily we EEC farmers do that anyway; we usually dine off a basket of currencies....
Thank you for inviting me.
...Washed down with liquid reserves...
How do you like your Sterling, weak or strong?
...And finish off with a wafer thin pocket calculator.
Or would you prefer a Royal Mint?
Come September mashed potato will be legal tender.
More tender than legal
INSTANT MASH
And if you gamble, chips will be chips.

Talking out the Labour Party

MOREOVER... Miles Kington

I have received an urgent note from a Mr Healey, who sounds in some agitation to me. It reads: *"Please print the following confidential document in your influential column. It may not mean much to you, but it could swing the election for us."* I have no idea what this means, but as I am short of a subject today, I might as well do what he asks. It seems to be an extract from a debate in the House of Lords.

The House of Lords yesterday heard the second reading of the Abolition of the Labour Party Bill.

Lord Catchpenny said that this was a bill generated in the House of Lords itself. It was a simple bill, designed merely to abolish the Labour Party, which was also known as Labour Party Ltd under the Companies Act and as the Socialist Party under the Historic Monuments Act. The House had nothing particular against the Labour Party as such – some of his best friends had been in Labour administrations, usually as Prime Minister – but it had threatened to abolish the House of Lords. He therefore felt it a good idea for them to abolish Labour first, in a pre-emptive strike.

Lord Mungo: How do you spell that?

Lord Treadmill said he didn't see what this had to do with the Otters and Ferrets Enabling Bill. He had travelled all the way from Northumberland to say his piece about blood sports and he didn't want to waste time on the Labour Party.

Lord Catchpenny: I believe, my Lord, the Otters and Ferrets Bill is tomorrow.

Lord Ampersand advised Lord Treadmill to stick around for the Labour Party Bill and he would see as much blood sports as he liked. It could develop into quite a brouhaha.

Lord Mungo: How do you spell that?

Lord Witgap said he had been a member of the Labour Party for 50 years. He had known what poverty was like. Witgap Towers, the stately home in which he grew up, had no running water or heating in any of its 45 rooms and they had only had an outside lavatory, built by Robert Adam in a most inconvenient place.

Lord Adidas: I cannot see what harm the Labour Party has done anyone.

Lord Ampersand said that Lord Adidas was a funny kind of name.

Lord Adidas: I changed it at the suggestion of my sponsors. Let me repeat: I cannot see what harm the Labour Party has done.

Lord Catchpenny explained that the general feeling was that the Labour Party was an elitist body, open only to people who had been to certain kinds of schools, from certain kinds of background. It also enshrined an out-of-date principle of hereditary primogeniture.

Lord Mungo: How do you spell that?

Lord Catchpenny: For instance, the left-wing had been run by the Foot family for generations. And he believed that Tony Benn had a daughter called Hilary who was standing for Ealing North.

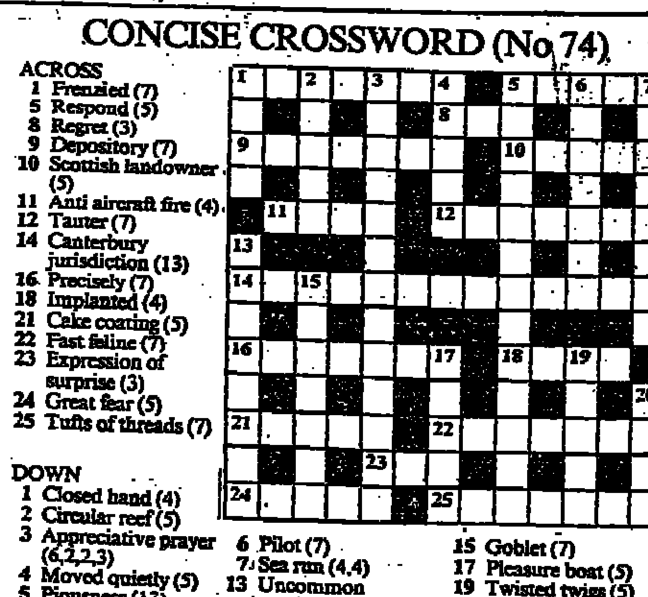
Lord Spratt said that they were stark raving loony to abolish the Labour Party. It was a prime tourist attraction. People flocked from all over the world to see what the Labour Party stood for – black puddings, Barnsley Public Library, Keith Waterhouse, sunset over Toxteth, bacon butties and the statue of Melvyn Bragg in Pontefract.

Lord Mungo: How do you spell that?

Lord Catchpenny said there were certain difficulties involved, as the Labour Party was protected under the Historic Monuments Act. However, things bearing a preservation order had often disappeared overnight – more often than other things, in fact – and he saw no reason why the Labour Party should not go the same way. He would personally look into it, as he knew a man who was in the demolition line of business and did things strictly for cash.

(The Abolition of the Labour Party Bill was given a second reading, 198-32.)

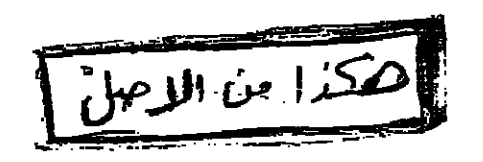
CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 74)



ACROSS
1 Frenzied (7)
5 Respond (5)
8 Regret (3)
9 Depository (7)
10 Scottish landowner (5)
11 Anti aircraft fire (4)
12 Taunter (7)
14 Canterbury jurisdiction (13)
16 Precisely (7)
18 Implanted (4)
21 Cake coating (5)
22 Fast feline (7)
23 Expression of surprise (3)
24 Great fear (5)
25 Tufts of threads (7)

DOWN
1 Closed hand (4)
2 Circular reef (5)
3 Appreciative prayer (6,2,2,3)
4 Moved quietly (5)
5 Piousness (13)
6 Pilot (7)
7 Sea run (4,4)
13 Uncommon specimen (4,4)
15 Goblet (7)
17 Pleasure boat (5)
19 Twisted twigs (5)
20 In this manner (4)

SOLUTION TO No 73
ACROSS: 1 Repast 5 Reject 8 Hue 9 Collar 10 Fondle 11 Gene 12 Narrator 13 Elated 15 Infest 17 Labourer 20 Gybe 22 Plated 23 Exotic 24 Del 25 Sticky 26 Ignite
DOWN: 2 Erode 3 Ailment 4 Throned 5 Refer 6 Junta 7 Callous 14 Leaflet 15 Israeli 16 Foghorn 18 Optic 19 Ruddy 21 Built
(Solution to No. 74 on Monday)
Recommended dictionary is the New Collins Concise



FRIDAY PAGE

MEDICAL BRIEFING

Danger in the sunshine

The wettest spring on record will encourage holiday makers to seek the sun. They should beware; recent work has shown that the complications from blistering and burning are more far-reaching than suffering the agony of lying on a hotel bed with a badly burnt back and chest.

The greatest danger does not seem to be to outdoor workers, but to office workers and others who expose their pallid skin only once a year and are therefore at risk of getting burnt, whether to the hot Mediterranean sun or the less fierce heat of the occasional sunny day on the Moray firth.

There is evidence that sunburning increases the chance of developing a cancerous mole (melanoma) for two reasons. *It alters the body's general* immune system, demonstrated by the fact that moles can turn malignant after severe burning even when occurring on the most intimate areas and therefore protected from direct sun by even the briefest of clothes. When the sun's rays do scorch the skin, actual damage to the mole may also precipitate similar changes.

People who are constantly exposed to the sun develp a different type of skin change, a solar keratosis, a rough scaly patch often seen on the backs of the hands and faces of farm workers, sailors and empire traders. These patches may be treated with Efudix cream (5-Flourouracil) or by freezing when still small, before they have given rise to trouble. If left, a squamous cell carcinoma, a skin cancer of low malignancy, may develop: this would then have to be removed surgically or treated with radiotherapy.

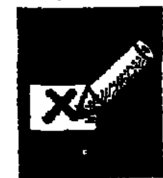
The bends



Priests and plumbers have something in common, both are repetitive kneelers: one before the altar and the other behind the pipes.

Dr Thomas Brachen describes in the New England Journal of Medicine *the case of a 45-year-old priest who has suffered chronic damage to the outer cartilage of his knee joint by repetitive kneeling: as a result he had pain, swelling and locking in the joint. Dr Brachen suggests that there might be similar cases: certainly a fenland plumber had identical signs and symptoms this weekend. Furthermore he denied that he took violent exercise, or had ever knowingly twisted his knee, and volunteered the fact that the trouble started after a job which required more repetitive kneeling than usual.*

Joint-wear



The affecting picture of an elderly voter hobbling to the polls is as much part of an election as photographs of lambs are to spring. It is not difficult for the press to find a subject, for statistics independently quoted by the Arthritis and Rheumatic Council, and by Professor Nicholas Bellamy and Professor Watson Buchanan of Ontario, in the month's *Update*, suggest that over one million people in Britain have rheumatoid arthritis and another five million osteoarthritis. Rheumatoid is twice as common in women as in men; osteoarthritis, often imprecisely defined as a wearing out of the joints, is equally divided between the sexes.

Circumstances have been unkind to the council this year; Mr Robin Leigh Pemberton, its chairman, had to resign when he became Governor of the Bank of England, and its National Arthritis Week, designed to publicize the advances in diagnosis and treatment made possible by research, has coincided with the general election.

Dr Colin Barnes, acting chairman, told *The Times* that in 1982, the council distributed over £3m to 170 different research projects, as well as subsidizing undergraduate and post-graduate education; more than one third of the money had been collected by supporters in its 900 branches.

Despite the onslaught of the research workers, many aspects of rheumatoid arthritis remain unexplained.

The X factor

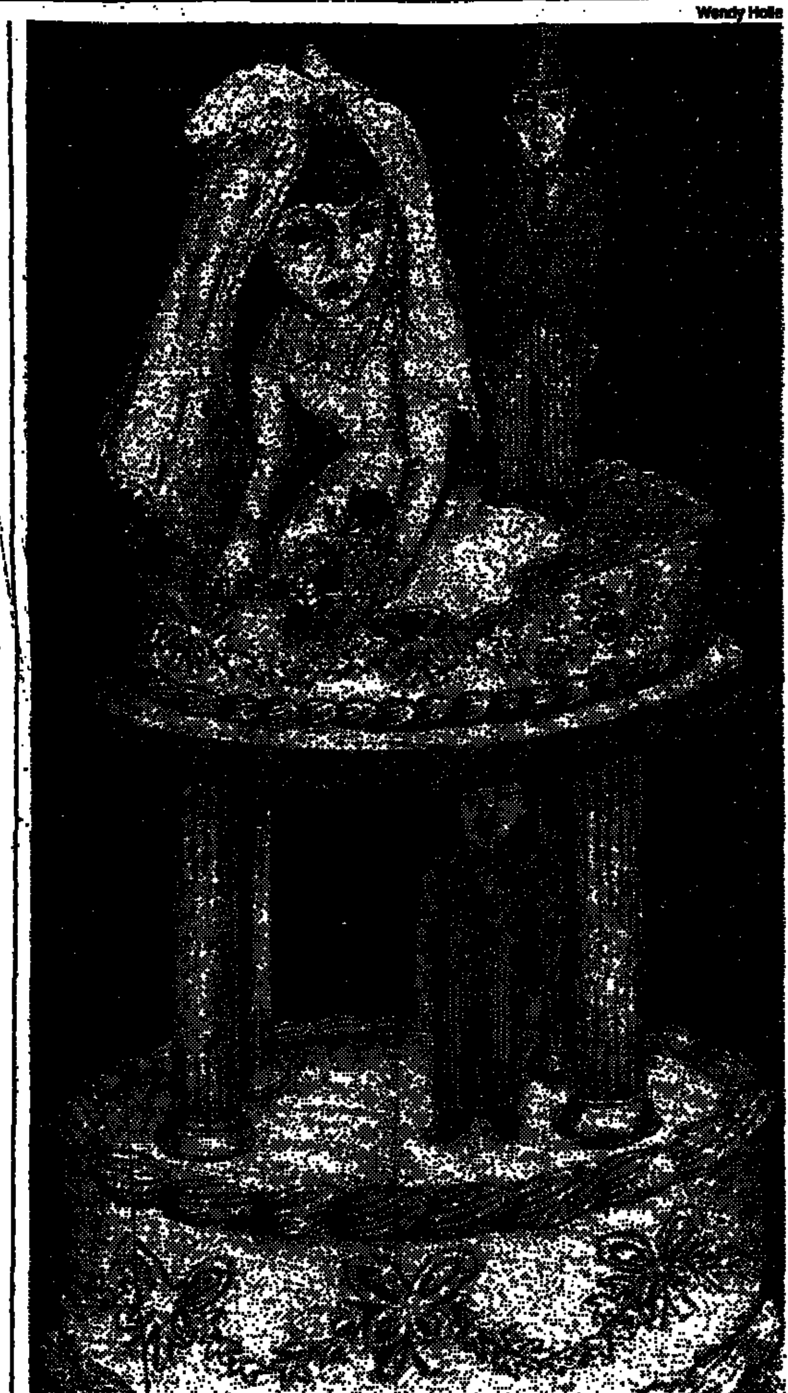


Each edition of Debretts *contains a melancholy list of peerages and baronetcies which have recently become extinct for want of a male heir. But the ability to choose the sex of a child by separating the sperms carrying the Y male-determining chromosome from the X female-bearing one has a medical importance far greater than that of satisfying a peer's longing for perpetuation.*

The Japanese claim that they have found an electrical means of dividing the two types of sperm so that it is possible to produce a seminal specimen containing girl-bearing sperms only. This will give hope to women who, although healthy, are carriers of the so-called X-linked diseases which may affect the male children they bear.

It is only possible now to avoid this hazard by aborting all male foetuses; the Japanese advance if confirmed would herald an era of selective conception rather then selective abortion.

Dr Thomas Stuttaford
Medical Correspondent



Wendy Holle

Someone old, someone new

The Church of England decision to allow divorcees to remarry in church in certain circumstances presents a number of embarrassments to the devout. Penny Perrick examines the trend that has led up to the decision

Today's report, *Marriage – and the Standing Committee's Task*, has a panicky air to it, like an ailing department store hastily arranging a mid-season sale to attract custom.

The report follows a decision by the General Synod of the Church of England to allow, in certain circumstances, divorced people to remarry in church and its request that the Synod's Standing Committee look into the possibilities of this.

Goodness knows, the present situation is far from satisfactory. As things stand, single persons, no matter how casual their connexion with their church, are *entitled to be wedded in it, while* divorced persons, no matter how devoted churchgoers they may be, are not. How unfair on the divorced man of irreproachable behaviour who wishes to take as his second wife a spiritually-inclined spinster. They may not marry in church, although their subsequent children may be baptized there. Yet although the Standing Committee would like such people to have the benefit of a church wedding, it certainly doesn't intend to treat them like first timers. First it would have them go through some intensely probing interviews before the diocesan bishop decides whether to allow their marriage to be solemnized.

The church would then publicly release them from their previous marriage vows – a rather embarrassing and certainly superfluous gesture, since the state has already done that. Some members of the committee would like to see a further indignity: a public statement to the effect that the marriage about to take place is a "second" one. I find it slightly disturbing that throughout this report "second" when referring to marriage, is always placed in quotes, making it sound like something that isn't real, like fake fur or leatherette. Such proposals, I feel, present an unattractive package for people who have already gone through the trauma of a divorce. They will also, in that nervy period before a wedding-day serve to remind everyone concerned of past failures, at the very time when it is helpful to be able to concentrate on future happiness.

All but the most determined will probably think that the briskness of a register office ceremony is preferable to an intrusive inspection into one's past life. And this is a shame because the Church of England badly needs more weddings. Throughout most of the 1970s, all over the industrialized world, the marriage rate has been dropping, while the cohabitation rate has been rising. People have simply been marrying *later*, to which may explain why the number of first marriages taking place in the Church of England has dropped sharply from 41 per cent of all first marriages in 1970 to 32 per cent in 1979. An 18-year-old bride might need veils, bouquets, bridesmaids and an authorized marriage service to make the day complete but a 27-year-old woman who has been living with her new husband for several years might rather spend the money on new carpeting. The economic recession plus the fact that register offices now go in for floral arrangements and a festive atmosphere have also contributed to the decline in church weddings. It is clear that unless the church can solemnize second or even "second" marriages, it might find itself participating in fewer and fewer marriages as the years go by.

Later marriages have not, sadly, meant longer marriages. The rise in cohabitation and the trend towards later marriage has not coincided with a declining divorce rate: between 1970 and 1979, this more than doubled in England and Wales, as did the number of remarriages. Some of my best friends are part of these statistics. They married for the first time as dreamy-eyed flower children, only growing up when the sombre 1970s found them divorced and, often, sole financial support of their children. One of these women said that she feels it was her second wedding which was the real one, the one that deserved to be solemnized, since it was undertaken in utter seriousness, after years of discussion.

"There was no question of a church wedding," she said, "so we made it as grand an occasion as possible by inviting both our large families to the register office. My mother, bless her, showed solidarity by wearing an amazing mother-of-the-bride outfit which was pure Barbara Cartland. During the years between my two marriages, I'd felt greatly sustained by going regularly to church and I should have liked the chance of repeating the marriage vows.

"I certainly approve of the decision to allow church weddings for divorced people and even sympathize with some of the hurdles the church may put in their way. I think it's the church's job to see that people don't take the matter lightly. I wouldn't like to see irresponsible people who drift in and out of marriage being given a second and then a third chance to walk down the aisle. One snag is that with weddings, if something can go wrong it will, and there could be a ghastly muddle over getting the bishop's permission and then the public statement and what-have-you added to the general confusion."

Another friend, about to marry for the second time in August, said that she would like a religious ceremony but would resent having to undergo the questioning and to be treated differently from someone marrying for the first time: "It reminds me of those schools where they make children getting free dinners stand in a separate queue. In a way, I find the present system more logical. The church, by not allowing second marriages to be solemnized, is emphasizing that marriage is, ideally, something you do only once, so, unless your partner dies, you're only allowed one shot at it. I'm quite a religious woman, but if I were allowed to marry in church again, I might get the feeling that I was somehow cheating. Perhaps a register office is more suitable – we can always go to church afterwards. On the other hand, you could say that the Church of England should be prepared to marry anyone who wants a church *ceremony*. Someone said that a second marriage was a triumph of hope over experience and there's something rather spiritualy uplifting about that sentiment which maybe the church should encourage."

Following the General Synod's decision in 1981 that there were circumstances in which a divorced person might marry in church during the lifetime of a former partner, the Standing Committee reports today on proposed procedures to allow such church marriage, subject to the following provisions:

Such a procedure must be pastorally conceived and operated in the highest pastoral interests of the couple, subject to the requirements of the Church's teaching.

Full and sensitive inquiry into each case should be undertaken by the incumbent, who would complete an application form for submission to the bishop and arrange for the parties to sign a simple declaration. The bishop would seek advice from a multi-diocesan panel.

The bishop, in affirming, would include a statement dispensing the person(s) concerned from the obligation to keep marriage vows previously made.

The Standing Committee is evenly divided on whether some form of public statement (of the fact that one of the parties has been divorced and has a former partner still living and that the bishop's special permission has been granted) should be mandatory.

What MPs think of women

It is unkind to make trouble between husband and wife, but I feel that Lady Howe, as a former deputy chairman of the Equal Opportunities Commission, really should know this about Sir Geoffrey: Last February, when asked to define his attitude towards women by filling in a ten point questionnaire sent to him by Carol Sarler, the editor of *Honey* magazine, he declined. "It is not his practice," Sir Geoffrey's private secretary wrote to Miss Sarler, "to complete documents of utter stupidity – quite rightly".

Jill Craigie, wife of Michael Foot, is just as interested in women's issues as Lady Howe and need not, on this occasion at least, feel embarrassed by her husband. Mr Foot filled in the questionnaire with great diligence, extending each 'yes' and 'no' with a robust comment, as, for example: "It is better for a child to come home to a mother who feels happy with her day's work, than one who feels angry because she has had no choice but to stay at home all day". Albert Booth, the former Labour Cabinet Minister who Jill Craigie described recently as "an unrecognized feminist", filled in his questionnaire most sympathetically, so *that's* all right.

Among the 220 Members of Parliament (out of a total of 635) who responded, were *David Steel* and Shirley Williams. Mrs Thatcher said she didn't have time to fill in her questionnaire, but sent round one of her old speeches instead. The three male members of the Gang of Four, Jenkins, Owen and Rodgers, spoilt the Alliance's record – a 52 per cent response by not replying. In fact, in spite of the SDP being the only party which officially insists on including women on selection shortlists, the Liberal MPs seemed more mindful of women's interest.

"I find it remarkable that Mrs T's proposals for the family include the disgraceful suggestion that women should find ther self-expression at the kitchen sink rather than at work." wrote David Steel. And on the subject of sexual harassment, David Alton answered: "I would welcome a change in the general attitudes towards women in my own particular work place – the Houses of Parliament".

The newly-reassembled House of Commons will surely be a less turbulent place without the presence of Andy McMahon, the Labour MP who, shortly after posting back his questionnaire, failed to be reselected for Glasgow, Govan. "I would be willing to support medical amputation for man who had been found guilty of rape", thundered Mr McMahon at one point. Demonstrating his lack of bias between the sexes, his view on sexual harassment was that "it is most unfortunate that certain females enjoy this, although I *can see no acion that will prevent* the pinching and groping that females of all ages accept and enjoy, even boast about". Thank goodness for that Heaven help us if Mr McMahon *could* visualize something that would cure of us of our boastful ways.

Just as interesting as the politicians' view is the fact that the July issue of *Honey* devotes seven whole pages to analysing them, and example of the more serious approach this "teenage" magazine has taken since Carol Sarler, a single parent and mother of daughter aged nine, took over as editor three years ago. Now the average *Honey* reader is over 20 and is, Carol Sarler thinks, growing more politically aware.

"Young women are growing up in an era that has no precedents", she said. "They have to work things out for themselves because their mums can't really help. These women support each other and expect their magazines's support too. You can go into any pub and hear twenty-two-year-old women ranting on about things. It's the young woman who are involved in Greenham Common and who start up rape crisis centres, all of which is undoubtedly a result of the feminist movement which has left no woman's life untouched, even if all it means to a housewife in Scunthorpe is that she asks her husband to give her a hand with the washing up."

She chose the ten questions on equal opportunities, disarmament, education, rape and violence, abortion, money matters, positive discrimination, child care, work opportunities and sexual harassment because she thought that these were the areas which were most going to affect women aged between 20 and 30 – "a lot of noise is made about women's issues, but not the sort of noise that leads to action". Yet even when MPs were put on the spot by her survey, if they thought there were valid reasons for treating men and women differently in matters of social security and tax, some of them took the opportunity to discuss how unfair the present *arrangements are to men.*

What emerges from the survey is that while a majority of all the MPs who answered its questions seem keen to boost professional training for women, would like a fairer taxation system and support a married woman's right to work, when it comes to giving help and support in difficult times the Labour Party is clearly out in front.

Its MPs were more inclined than the others to extend state funding for *rape crisis centres, prevent any* restriction of the current abortion laws and provide more child care facilities.

This has led to Carol Sarler to the conclusion that: "If you are seeking radical reform for women, you won't vote Conservative – they've *told* us in the survey that they're not going to do anything. Yet a senior female executive at IPC, which publishes *Honey*, who's read the survey is still going to vote for them". And there's the heart of the matter. The Labour MPs presented a picture of women as vulnerable, crisis-prone and hard done by. The Conservatives seemed to think that women could get ahead without any special provision being made – "Ability will find its level *and its reward*", pronounced one, rather typical, Tory whose comment is backed up by the IPC executive.

Carol Sarler acknowledged that the female voter may be concerned with more than women's issues. "But for some of our readers this may be the first time they've voted, or simply the first time they've had the chance to think things out for themselves. I'd hate to feel we haven't changed someone's mind about something."

Anne Bluston

HOW MPs RESPONDED TO THE QUESTIONNAIRE

Labour: 44 per cent (105).
Conservative: 24 per cent (80).
SDP/Liberal: 52 per cent (22).
Other: 19 per cent (4).
(One Ulster Unionist, one Scottish nationalist, two Plaid Cymru. Nine replied anonymously.

TALKBACK

Clouded view

From Mrs Doreen Wiltshire, Holly Cottage, Back Road, Falkenham, Ipswich.

I refer to the article of Wednesday (May 25) "Living happily ever after," about the Eysencks.

In a paper of the calibre of *The Times*, I object to reading the comment about Sybil Eysenck: "She is a pretty woman with a cloud of long dark hair and the figure of a young girl."

Perhaps we should also have read how Professor Eysenck was a handsome man with a cloud of short greying hair and the figure of a middle aged man!

Must we put up with such blatant sexism?

House-sense

From Christopher Gay, City Chief Executive, Canterbury City Council, Military Road, Canterbury, Kent.

Diana Patt's article (Friday Page, May 13) told of the joys and the responsibilities of ownership of an historic building. Her warning to readers was to beware the local authority and its draconian powers.

It was possible, however, to draw a different conclusion from her story – i e do not fall so madly in love with a beautiful and ancient building that you are tempted to buy it without a full survey of its condition only to find dry rot infestation and the need for expensive repairs to protect, not only your property, but that of your neighbours.

B is for bite

From Professor Robert Miller, American University of Beirut, Beirut, Lebanon

In Medical Briefing (May 13.) you reported that a specialist at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine was sceptical about old colonial hands' claim that vitamin B tablets helped to keep off *mosquitoes*.

Has it been suggested that the vitimin B might have helped in reducing sensitivity to the delayed reaction to bites which Mellanby noted in the 1940s? Studies on army personnel in cages between 1939-45 showed that *Anopheles* would feed on everyone, but that after regular bites nightly or several weeks, sensitivity to further bites fell off (*Nature* 158:751).

At any rate the scepticism about vitamin B preventing bites seems well founded. You did not mention the use of coils of mosquito-repelling incense, which may contain pyrethrides; I'm not sure of either the composition or the spelling, tongued, unbitten in a smoke-filled room which may create its own health hazards.

Love or money

From A. M. Parums, 27 Fonthill Terrace, Aberdeen.

Apropos the report that £400,000 has been bequeathed to institute a prize for writers of romantic fiction. Could this fairly be described as a slush fund?

Monday: The subject of The Times Profile is Dame Ninette de Valois, the demanding doyenne of British dance

THE TIMES DIARY

Run of the mill

Margaret Thatcher, who has already been photographed during this election with a dead conger eel, inspecting silage and driving a dumper truck, refused a photographer's request in a Scottish weaving mill to be pictured in a Tam a' Shanter. "It's too gimicky", she said. She then flew to north-west England, where she was photographed in baker's regalia in a Bolton bakery and sipping a half pint in a Stockport brewery.

Lapels go Lab

I have discovered a landslide to Labour among committed voters. The Badge Shop in Earlham Street, Covent Garden, has been selling political badges and keeping a tally of the purchases. The results so far are: "I am a floating voter", 4.7 per cent; "Don't vote, it only encourages them", 17.9 per cent; "Vote Liberal/SDP," 7.6 per cent; "Vote Conservative," 11.2 per cent; and "Vote Labour", an overall majority, 58.9 per cent.

Indecision day

My politically open mind this morning is Timothy Abbott. He is contesting Salisbury for the Don't Know party, and he has formed an alliance with the local Undecideds. He is getting 22 per cent support in the opinion polls. "I have no wish to take comitted voters from other parties", he says, "but I think it is time for the Don't Knows to stand up and be counted. Only 70 per cent voted in Salisbury last time. We should have a 100 per cent poll at this election." Abbott, a registered psychiatric nurse and former social worker, has not got much on at the moment, so he can take up parliamentary duties if the electorate do decide that they cannot make up their minds.

All-purpose

The work is shared around at British Island Airways, the firm flying Margaret Thatcher on her election tour. The arrival of Captain Roy Heath, the company's marketing director, in the cabin to pilot the plane surprised the travelling press corps. Earlier in the tour his jobs had included helping the stewards clear away the food and drink trays.

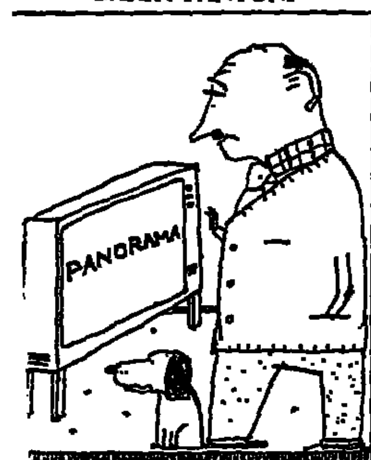
Party games

I have just received a breathless call from Heathrow by a flying Finn called Kauno Vinikka. No, this is not another anagram, although the gist of his message was that the main parties are open to revision, as follows; Liberal becomes "braille", a Russian currency exchange turns Labour into "roubla", while Conservative becomes "revise a TV con", presumably a memo to the other Smith Square wordsmiths.

Boy's own

Even though, as I reported yesterday, our public schools are fighting shy of providing the location for the film of Julian Mitchell's controversial *Another Country*, a small group of boys at Eton are staging the play themselves. Performances, expected to be a sell-out, are in the school's Farrer Theatre on June 16 to 18 and programme advertising is being sold at hard-headed rates. The head of drama has even been roped in to play the only non-juvenile. Downside has already staged the play and I now wait, in vain perhaps, for Mitchell's old school, Winchester, to follow suit.

BARRY FANTONI



Send the children to bed, Beryl. There's a video nasty coming up'

ake one smile . . .

sterday Anton Mosimann, my ourite London hotel chef, unted a bravura display in the chester's kitchens to launch his k *Cuisine a la Carte*. Such is simann's reputation that there 650 trained chefs around the ld waiting to work with him. But t was fascinating to me, as an teur face reader, was to discover Mosimann picks all his staff by ying their faces. "People with faces cannot be good in iens. We have 98 per cent le with warm faces now", he glowing warmly. In the heat of itchens, I could believe him.



The programme for the girls' school romp at the Globe Theatre, *Daisy Pulls it Off*, includes an old girls section announcing births, marriages other snippets. Now the gement has received a letter Doris Tong, née Mellows, marriage 53 years ago is one se mentioned. She was at the f London School for Girls from to 1922, and now lives in am. She has been invited up to n to see the show, though she he rarely goes to town these – except for Old Girls ation meetings.

PHS

The walkabout to end all walkabouts

Indore

It looked like that scene from *Gandhi*: the political leader striding out along the dusty road, surrounded and followed by his supporters dressed in white homespun cotton, a hundred to two hundred of them trailing away into the distance. The Mahatma was marching to the sea at Dandi to make salt in contravention of the British laws, and so to dramatize the struggle for the freedom of his people.

In fact, Mr Chandra Shekar, president of the opposition Janata Party, is marching virtually the length of India, from Kanniyakumari in the far south, to Delhi in the north. His aim, he says, is to return political power to the people. "We are trying to take back politics to the villages", he said during a rest just outside this, the largest town in Madhya Pradesh, at about the three-quarter mark of his journey.

The march, 2,500 miles in all, including the zigzagging in and out of towns, is called a *padayatra*, a pilgrimage on foot. The symbolic value of walking about this great dry subcontinent is deeply ingrained in the Indian ethos.

Not only Gandhi in recent times, but Vinoba Bhave also gained respect and reverence from his 13 years of marches attempting to persuade landlords to relinquish land to their tenants. But the tradition goes back at least to the eighth-century holy man, Adi Shankar Acharya, who wandered the country from Kerala to Kashmir, founding centres of learning in *ashrams* and challenging the Buddhist faith.

Holy men belonging to the Jain sect today still walk the countryside preaching.

Mr Chandra Shekar, aged 56, looks a little like a holy man, with a dark scruffy beard, a burning eye and a charming smile. His *padayatra* caused some amusement in sophisticated circles when it started, nor could it help the operation of a political party to have its president away from the office for six months at a time.

But the amusement and frustration have died away now the march is beginning to get respectful attention, and the contact with village people is obviously bringing him a growing reputation.

There is little doubt that by the time his pilgrimage ends on June 25 in Delhi – the eighth anniversary of Mrs Gandhi's declaration of a state of emergency – he will have become the second best known politician in the country.

It is becoming difficult for him to meet and listen to people along the way. He is garlanded every few hundred yards with marigolds, but these occasions appear to cause him some distress as the onward sweep of the marching *padayatris* clashes with the reception committees and people swirl about him.

But he listens as much as he can, mostly to requests to provide drinking water – he has been through some of the most drought-afflicted regions of Kerala and Tamil Nadu, and he and his followers now propose to use some of the money he has raised along the way towards improving the rural water supply.

He is not a compelling public speaker, and can sound preachy and querulous. He has never held ministerial office – he remained party president all through the Janata Party's period in power – and perhaps for this reason is thought unlikely to become Prime Minister if Mrs Gandhi should lose again. But his reputation is now such that he is certain to be the king-maker.

Michael Hamlyn

How will the Pope change Poland this time?

Warsaw

At about the time that Karl Marx was worrying about the decline of capitalism, the Polish playwright Zygmunt Krasinski had some semi-prophetic things to say about the future relationship between communists and Catholics in his homeland.

"Perhaps a communist society really is the highest goal towards which the history of the world inclines; but for it not to become the most terrible irony, the most lunatic despotism, it must come at a time when the light of Christ turns everyone into a saint", he wrote.

General Jaruzelski, the Polish leader, seems to have taken Krasinski's counsel to heart for it is difficult otherwise to see why he is going ahead with the papal visit to Poland in a few weeks wime, a visit that promises new strength to the church and new vitality to the fatigued Solidarity opposition but offers nothing but high risks and political uncertainty to the government. Pope John Paul II will be flying to Warsaw as a Pole returning to Poland and as the Catholic leader paying tribute to holy shrines – but also as a political tactician, aware of his ability to evoke the strongest political emotions.

His last visit four years ago planted the seed of self-confidence among the workers and effectively spawned the Solidarity revolution. It created a sense of renewal, a feeling that change in Poland had to come from within Poles themselves and could not be imposed from above. There was a widespread revulsion against communist privilege and incompetence and the slogans became "self-government" and "self-management".

This time the effects of the visit will probably be less dramatic but may well be more lasting and fundamental than the 16 months of Solidarity. There will be an unleashing of great energy – but where will it go? Who will exploit it? Who is capable of controlling it?

The Catholic Church is of course the immediate benificiary of the papal visit. Since the Pope last visited Poland, the church has gone through important internal changes, above all the selection of a new primate, Cardinal Josef Glemp. It is unfortunate that the changes coincided with the imposition of martial law for they made the church leadership often seem mealy mouthed and irresolute. Since the death of Cardinal Stefan Wyszynski, power has flowed from the post of Primate and Poland's other bishops as represented by the Episcopate.

This is the correct balance under canon law but it has not served Poland as well as it could have done since Jaruzelski declared martial law 18 months ago. The result has been that the government could reject church calls for dialogue with Solidarity, for the full lifting of martial law and for an amnesty of political prisoners.

Church advisers say they have learned two things from their dealings with the authorities. The first is that they are always keen to negotiate when they are in a position of political weakness and want to mobilize popular support: when this weakness turns into a simulacrum of strength, the attitude rapidly changes and the priests have to duck for cover. The second lesson is that the communists, having realized that concerted secularization of Polish society is impossible, are content to divide and rule – setting priests against bishops, bishops against bishops – to neutralize the church politically.



Ingram Pinn

The Pope can thus play an incisive role: by going to Poland when the government is in a state of debility, he can strengthen the church leadership so that is can again press effectively for social concessions. So far, church victories have been limited to their own sectional interests – for example, a bill will be presented soon regulating church-state relations and anchoring the position of the church in Polish society. Even these victories have been somewhat reduced by the crass behaviour of people – one can only assume them to be security officials – who break into churches and beat up lay Catholic workers on holy ground. But the Pope will again give legitimacy to a more concerted "human rights" offensive by the church.

Lech Walesa, who is expected to meet the Pope, and the underground leadership of Solidarity also support the papal visit. The radicals who once argued that it would be more effective to force the government to cancel the trip – and thus expose its weakness – have now fallen in with this line, some only grudgingly. The question in the underground leadership is how to exploit the occasion – demonstrating to millions in the West that Solidarity not only lives and has papal support, but to do so without debasing the visit and alienating a section of believers.

These are short-term technical problems. In the long term, the opposition – as expressed in a recent underground article by Stefan Bratkowski, a dissident journalist – must aim at persuading a section of the establishment that radical change is urgently needed. The people, with a sympathetic segment of the political elite, could, he believes, transform Poland.

The Pope plays a part in this, because he is a concrete sign that the church is a permanent feature in Poland, and that change should be carried out in a way that benefits the majority of people.

In all of this, government motivation remains obscure. Of course, the Pope is also the head of the Vatican State and thus the first western leader to visit Poland since the imposition of martial law. That may be enough to persuade the West to ease sanctions policies, yet nothing is likely to shift in the West until the end of martial law, and that may well not come until the end of the year. So far the trip has caused nothing but aggravation – Moscow and Prague seem to be irritable about it and this irritation is communicating itself to the hard-liners in the Polish Communist Party who are, in turn, criticizing the Jaruzelski line, or at least those "liberal Marxists" who support him.

General Jaruzelski's major gain from this national energy will be the end of the apathy paralysing his economic reforms and crippling productivity. In the manner of Krasinski – communism through sainthood – he seems to believe that the goodwill of Poles is essential to his plans for limited reform.

This is difficult to understand in Moscow and Prague where they see only problems for their own church-state relations and where, in their own way, they have managed to survive for decades without such luxuries as popular support.

Roger Boyes

Why Fleet Street is boxed in

The press and the election, by Christopher Ward

The demands of newspaper production require that all national newspapers go to press at the same time when their readers are at home watching television. The consequences of this are twofold. Firstly, most readers are fairly well informed before they even pick up their morning paper. They also, incidentally, know when a story is being pushed beyond the limits of honest reporting because they have seen and heard the reported event on television for themselves.

Secondly, newspaper executives are oblivious to what is going on on television because they are too busy bringing out the paper. Most of the decisions they make are therefore not influenced by anything their readers might have seen on television the previous evening.

At the best of times the television factor puts newspapers at a disadvantage. During elections the television factor becomes critical because it can make newspapers appear not to know what is going on, or what their readers are talking about.

From its rebirth under Rupert Murdoch, *The Sun* has recognized the important part that television plays in its readers' lives, and this has clearly contributed to the paper's mass-circulation success. During the election *The Sun* seems to have been the only paper to have kept one eye firmly on the box. Recognizing that its readers have had an overdose of politicians and election issues on radio and television *The Sun* has led its front page every day (until yesterday, anyway) with something completely different: "Scandal of a blind driver" (last Friday); "Naughty! Di ticks off boy who stole a kiss" (Saturday); "Our Di looks swell" (Monday); "England stars in drink swoop" (Tuesday); "Wives vote for Lester" (Wednesday).

If television has played a key role in keeping a lot of political news out of *The Sun*, it has played an even greater part in how *The Sun* has handled its election coverage. *The Sun's* philosophy is: if it happens on television when millions are watching, it's news. The election story given the most prominence on Monday, for instance, was not so much about the Alliance's problems but the fact that *"Mr Steel will be seen more and more on TV, where he has shown himself an impressive performer."* Because of his successful exposure on television, and not for any other reason, David Steel therefore becomes of interest to *Sun* readers and thus worthy of *The Sun's* first election page one lead yesterday – "Steel band rocks Foot"– in which Steel is twice described as a "telly star".

While *The Sun* has been watching television the *Daily Mirror*, which I referred to her a couple of weeks ago as "the dog that didn't bark in the night", has again been making news – this time with its "Foot sensation: will he or won't he resign?" front page on Wednesday, into which, I suspect, nothing sinister of significance should be read.

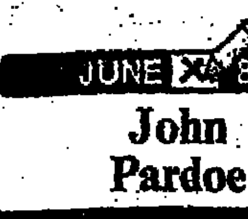
The paper that ought to be making the biggest headlines isn't even being published at the moment – the *Financial Times*. The dispute that has stopped production of the *FT* could not have come at a more embarrassing time for the newspaper or, indeed, for the Government. Having put the boot into the Tory party and Tory policies at every opportunity and gone out of its way to ask awkward questions, the voice of the City had, no doubt, planned to come out firmly for Maggie at some strategic moment between now and the election. It may not now have that opportunity if the dispute continues.

And if there is no *FT* before the election, the paper can hardly come out afterwards offering its congratulations. Not after the memorable headlines of the paper's last issue, on Tuesday, which aren't likely to be forgotten in a hurry by Mrs Thatcher. "Steel hits at Mrs Thatcher's 'obsession'"; "Jobs blight touches West London."

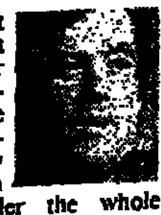
What this election has lacked so far is any surprises. There have been no sensational revelations, no truly monstrous allegations made by one politician against another, no acts of extreme silliness to lighten the gloom. So my heart leapt when I picked up the *Daily Mirror* on Tuesday and read the front page headline FOOT BITES BACK. For a wonderful moment I thought Foot had bitten his lovable dog Dizzy, the dog who, George Gale reported in the *Daily Express*, has stopped wagging his tail. Labour leader bites dog. Now that *would* be a story.

The author was until recently editor of the Daily Express.

Faith in defence the Nato way



John Pardoe



One of the best things to come out of this election so far has been the attention given to the defence issue. I suspect that many people have been forced to reconsider the whole subject.

That old logician Enoch Powell has applied his considerable mind and dragged us back to first principles, not for the first time. His argument that Britain's independent nuclear deterrent is "insane" is not of course new. It was put forward by the Liberal Party as early as 1957 and was one of the policies which persuaded me to join the party. Then, like Mr Powell now, I was totally convinced by the logic of the case.

Britain's nuclear weaponry is, according to Mr Powell, "negligible in comparison with that of Rusia". To deploy it against Russia therefore would be to commit suicide since Russian weapons could destroy Britain while Britain's weapons could do comparatively little damage to the Soviet Union.

All this is true and logical. But it is not practical. This distinction is within each one of us. Logically and philosophically I am a pacifist but I know that in practice I would not act as one.

However, Mr Powell's logic is much to be preferred to the extraordinary contortions performed by Mrs Thatcher on *Panorama* this week. She explained her refusal to seek dual-key control of American cruise missiles based on British soil by accusing those who argue for it of mistrusting our allies. How could we mistrust America? How disgraceful! In her very next breath however she defended the need for Britain's independent deterrent on the grounds that we could not trust America to come to our defence in a crisis. If Mr Powell loses his highly marginal seat in this election he could do worse than set up as a teacher of logic to British prime ministers.

The defence issues are so complex that probably only a very few "experts" really understand them. There do however appear to be certain essential principles which ought to be stated.

No one can be certain exactly what has kept the peace in Europe since 1945 but I strongly suspect that collective security within Nato and the Warsaw Pact backed by the balance of nuclear terror has been its main bastion.

Anything that damages that collective security or upsets that balance of terror therefore will make war more likely. That is why Labour's policies of pulling out of the EEC, one-sided disarmament, and import controls will all undermine our security. For they will damage our relations with our Nato partners and destroy confidence in the collective security of the alliance.

Nato's collective security requires that a potential enemy will believe us when we say we will meet force with force. That is where Mr Powell's argument comes into its own. The Russians will simply not believe that we will commit nuclear suicide in response to a limited conventional attack. Yet that is what we are asking them to believe if we have weak conventional forces and rely on nuclear weapons.

General Rodgers, Nato's supreme commander in Europe, has been rubbing home this message for some time. He has said: "We have built ourselves a short conventional war." What he meant by this was that Nato's conventional forces in Europe are so weak that we would be forced to resort to nuclear weapons within days of a conventional attack.

That is why the Conservative government's *determination* to spend vast sums on Trident missiles is so dangerous. We shall, in General Rodgers's phrase, "have mortgaged our future to the nuclear response".

What Nato needs from Britain is the election of a government firmly commited to the principles of collective security within Nato, and determined to meet the Nato targets for conventional forces, thus enabling the eventual adoption of a "no first-use" policy for nuclear weapons.

Such a British government could then use all its authority as a sound partner in the alliance to get negotiations on multilateral disarmament and arms control moving forward. Such a government would place on the table of these negotiations both our own Polaris deterrent and a "pending" decision about the deployment of cruise missiles in Britain.

The author, Liberal MP for Cornwall North, 1966 to 1979, is a member of the Alliance campaign committee.

Tomorrow: Jock Bruce-Gardyne

Philip Howard

Yes, Mr Tebbit, I certainly will

I have sat on the bicycle-seat of the future, and it works; except that I fell off doing a U-turn. Alex Moulton, inventor and reviewer of technological books for *The Times*, when they are worth reviewing (which is, alas, not often), has just published his new bicycle. He is the chap who invented the Moulton bicycle, with dinky little wheels, the suspension of the Mini, and much else. His new bike is known as the Moulton Advanced Engineering Bicycle, and is notable for being divisible into two parts at the flick of a screw. It also weighs only 24 lb, is a miracle of ingenious design, with the pump, *per exemple*, secreted in the steel tube that holds the saddle, and costs rather more than I had in mind paying for a new bicycle, when my 1942 second-hand iron horse finally falls into two parts.

A. Moulton brought two of his new bikes in four parts in the boot of his car over to Edington in the Vale of the White Horse, near his stately Jacobean offices at Bradford-on-Avon, last Sunday. He assembled them as deftly as those of us with fingers like bunches of bananas screw on the tops of our fountain pens, and gave us a pep talk about the virtues of his invention. Then we set off to try them. That was where I fell off. This was partly because I find sharp turns on small-wheeled bikes an unstable affair; partly because when you pedal backwards the thing changes gear instead of free-wheeling; partly because there are steep hills hereabouts, my masters; you remember the Battle of Ethandune or Edington:

King Guthrum lay on the upper land.
On a single road at gaze,
And his foe must come with lean array,
Up the left arm of the cloven way,
To the meeting of the ways.

"Lean array" would be meiosis to describe our condition after west Wiltshire Sunday lunch; but we came wobbling up the steep single road to the meeting of the ways, and fell off.

A new bicycle was one of the most memorable events of one's childhood, even a "new" second-hand bicycle; and some of the excitement lingers on. That shiny stainless steel and those interesting knobs are irresistible. It is no small thing to get on your bike, if it is a new one. To give one's name to a new kind of bicycle is one of the most gratifying and least harmful inventions available to man.

I suppose that Leonardo da Vinci was the first who nearly invented the push-bike. There is the design for a machine driven by cranks and pedals with connecting rods that has been ascribed to him. It looks the sort of thing that a man could fall off without trying. The precursor of the bike was the *célérifère* or *vélocifère*, built for the Comte de Sivrac and demonstrated at the Palais Royale, Paris, in 1791. It consisted of a sort of wooden horse on two wheels. The rider sat astride it and propelled it with alternate thrusts of his feet, until he fell off. I quite fancy one of those, though I shall try it out on a less public and less congested track than Gray's Inn Road.

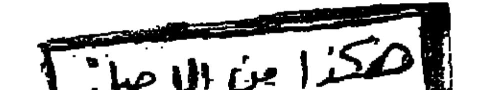
Then around 1817 the German engineer Baron von Drais de Sauerbrun produced a contraption with a pivoting front wheel, a handlebar, and an arm rest. It could roll along at about eight miles an hour, and was called a *draisienne*, the first eponymous bike, precursor of your Moulton. The next stage in the Tour d'Appliance was taken by Kirkpatrick Macmillan, blacksmith of Dumfries, who built a two-wheeled machine on the treadle principle. The treadles were connected with the rear wheel, and the machine could be ridden without the rider's feet touching the ground, except in the bumpier parts of Dumfries, you understand.



Alex Moulton, public benefactor

The blacksmith was not just the inventor, but the original racing cyclist. In 1842 he rode from Thornhill to Glasgow, but en route knocked down a child. After a somewhat sensational court case, he set out for home. On the way he fell in with a friend, driving the Glasgow to Carlisle mail coach. Macmillan bet him that he could race the coach to Sanquhar, and won. And the new world of pumping legs and dipping inner tubes into buckets of water to locate the puncture was born.

You can see Kirkpatrick Macmillan's Heath Robinson invention of wood and cranks and rods in the Science Museum at Kensington; but you would be imprudent to try to ride it. These bicycle inventors are public benefactors. The sun shines. The lilac is out. The open road beckons, in between the traffic jams and the murderous bus drivers. On your bike, Howard.



TIMES PAST THE TIMES

P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

THE FALKLANDS FACTOR

There are many reasons why it would have been better to have left the Falklands war out of the election campaign. The first is that the legacy which led to that war was a bipartisan one. True, the final miscalculation lay with Mrs Thatcher's government, but both Labour and Tory governments before her had tilled the seedbed of future misadventure. The second, as a consequence of the first, is that both governments suffer from the paradox that, though Britain has been in a shooting match with Argentina, she has supplied and continues to supply finance and military equipment to that country.

The ships, missiles and helicopters which Argentina used against British forces were all sold to her under Labour governments, as were the turbine engines now being installed in German frigates destined for Argentina. Over the same period the junta has and is receiving international financial help from banking consortia which include British banks, and which thus have always enabled the generals to relieve their indebtedness while continuing to buy even more arms on the open market. Mr Healey's accusations of hypocrisy thus come ill from a former Labour Defence Secretary and Chancellor.

The third reason is that lessons learnt in war – be they operational or political – are best acted on after patient enquiry and analysis, rather than through bombastic exchanges on the hustings. The fourth is that the armed forces who risked (and lost) their lives in the service of their country and in defence of the Falklands, are still at a state of readiness against any recurrence of the risk. That dedication can only be cheapened by the spectacle of its being exploited at home, either to the advantage of the government or as a political weapon with which to berate it. With all his experience Mr Healey knew this, and should thus have known better than to indulge in the coarse intervention for which he was rightly criticised yesterday. Sadly it has always been an aspect of Mr Healey's political character that, in spite of (or maybe because of) his superior intellect, he has felt it necessary to present himself as the common man by calculated coarseness and other unnecessary vulgarity. So he introduced the Falklands factor in the crudest way he could.

The election issue therefore is sovereignty, not whether it should be negotiated, but how it might be transferred. You either have sovereignty and defend it, or you give it away. Negotiations in those circumstances are merely about the conditions and arrangements for the inhabitants of the territory to be transferred.

The government's principle is that sovereignty is not negotiable and not transferrable, and that, while the Argentines remain belligerent, the cost of defending such a proposition – several hundred million pounds per year – is something which just has to be borne. The Opposition Parties can contest that proposition – as Dr Owen has done – but only on the basis of the question: should we defend the Falklands, even at that price, or should we prepare to give them away?

There remains the question of the Belgrano. One of the reasons why this question will not go away is that all those people who opposed the Falklands operation last year still have a vested interest in finding retrospective evidence to vindicate opinions which have otherwise been hopelessly vitiated by events. They believe that the sinking of the Belgrano is one such event. They hope that the facts will provide grounds for suggesting that Mrs Thatcher was always determined to go to war, in disregard of any apparent proposals for peace.

The Argentine Junta refuses to announce any formal cessation of hostilities. British troops are therefore still at risk in defending the Falklands. As long as a state of suspended hostilities obtains, the only Falklands factor which should legitimately enter the election is the issue of principle for the future. That issue is not whether or not there should be negotiations with Argentina, because of course there should. There is much to discuss in the search for a more tolerable *modus vivendi* in the South Atlantic. But if that can only be done by making a prior commitment to negotiate sovereignty, then nothing will be discussed.

There are demands for an enquiry. It is a measure of this country's fortunate insulation from most warlike activity for more than a generation that the sinking of a hostile ship – during hostilities – should remain the subject of persistent demands for an enquiry. Can one imagine what a long procession of enquiries would have occurred after 1945 if such had been the attitude then? The loss of all British warships has indeed been followed by painstaking and painful naval enquiries so that lessons can be learnt for the future. But quite rightly the result of those enquiries has remained at the technical level and has not become the subject of political pressures exercised in a different context at the expense of the surviving professionals who still have to carry on with their dangerous tasks in the South Atlantic.

Yesterday the Prime Minister once again rejected such an enquiry. The charge against her is that she deliberately changed the naval rules of engagement to sink both the Belgrano and the possibility that the Junta would accept the Peruvian peace proposals subsequently endorsed by the British Cabinet. What are the operational and political facts?

First the British were already aware from Mr Alexander Haig that it was virtually impossible to engage the Junta in any serious discussion. They also knew that while General Galtieri was ostensibly considering the Peruvian proposals, the Argentine navy was fully at sea advancing on the British Task Force from three directions. One of those thrusts consisted of the Belgrano and two destroyers armed with Exocets, capable of destroying a war ship at up to 40 miles range.

Argentina had been warned previously that British warships would act in self defence on the high seas, and would automatically attack any Argentine ship within the stated exclusion zone round the Falklands. The general self-defence provision was not applicable to nuclear submarines except in circumstances of a submarine-to-submarine encounter. So when the Captain of HMS Conqueror discovered the Belgrano force advancing towards British ships he had to seek specific permission to have the rules changed before he could engage the cruiser.

That permission was sought from the war Cabinet and was granted. Operationally speaking the risk of not granting it would have been to allow Belgrano and its attendant Exocets loose among the Task Force. British ships had already been bombed and they had no permanent reconnaissance capability since the Harrier aircraft had to act as air defence against bombers.

Operationally speaking only overriding diplomatic reasons would have justified placing the British shipping – frigates, carriers, even Canberra – in such jeopardy from an Exocet-armed force. The fact that Belgrano was sailing westward at the time is totally immaterial. Has anybody bothered to ask which way HMS Sheffield's bows were pointing when she went down, or any of the other British warships which were sunk? It takes a mere 30 seconds to alter course, – as Belgrano had done many times before she was sunk.

In those circumstances the hypothetical possibility that the Junta might change character and genuinely embrace a peace proposal – against all previous evidence – could not have been seriously entertained by the British War Cabinet without exposing the Task Force, and therefore Britain's whole ability, if necessary, to recapture the Falklands, to a quite unacceptable risk.

However it was not these rational and strategic considerations which lay behind Mr Healey's attack. It was an intention to portray the Prime Minister, by association, as a person whose bloodthirsty and callous approach to the Falklands was to be found in her attitude to unemployment, health, welfare, and the deterrent. That goes far beyond the tactics of "whose finger on the trigger" – a previous Labour ploy. It goes beyond the suggestion that the Prime Minister's style of leadership is more suited to winning a war than enhancing the peace. Those are legitimate questions to raise in an election where the quality of political leadership on offer is widely accepted as being even more important than the range of policies put forward; but this is not the way to raise them. It goes far beyond all reasonable standards of political debate, and in so doing, it goes too far.

NEW WARDROBE FOR THE WI

During the keynote address at the new-look Women's Institute yesterday, one significant burst of applause interrupted the movement's chairman (it is one of the dwindling number of organizations in Britain still ruled by chairmen rather than chairpeople). It came when the speaker, Mrs Anne Harris, paused in her recital of plans to transform the WI's image and declared "We shall never lose our non-party and non-sectarian stance". There was a trace of relief in the applause: one of the penalties of a campaign to tease public interest with promises of startling but unspecified changes soon to be revealed is that more conservative listeners may become alarmed. The WI, which does something very worthwhile and has been doing it for nearly 80 years, is a conservative organization in the best sense, and is rightly wary of trendy stridency.

There is a gloss of trendy stridency upon the programme launched yesterday. With its motorcades, snappy slogans, windscreen stickers and razzmatazz theme song it is reminiscent of a commercial advertising hype or even (perish the thought) a political campaign. Like its models, it is an ephemeral play, harmless in itself, to catch attention. It is easy to foresee that the WI will still be singing "Jerusalem", by that political and sexual subversive William Blake, when the homogenized uplift of the theme-song (words and melody attributed in the handouts to a little-known composer/librettist by the name of Optographic) has long been forgotten. Underneath the tinsel, the movement itself is intended to retain its essential character.

What is less superficial is the decision to make an energetic play for business sponsorship. This is not a wholly new departure, for the WI has often collaborated with commercial promoters for special events. But the scale of the partnership is new, and so are the motives behind it. For many years the membership of the WI has gradually been declining from its peak of almost half a million. This is not altogether matter for blame. It is a country organization, and population has been moving from the country to the suburbs. The number of competing community organizations and lobbyists has inevitably grown, in activities where the WI was the pioneer. If a certain dowdiness is imputed to its ideals of voluntary service in cottage hospital and charity fête, and self-improvement in cookery and public speaking classes, that is more a criticism of its critics than of the WI. It can and should exert itself to appeal to the young and lively, but not to the point of being preoccupied with image at the expense of service and fun.

Sponsors are seen as a source of support to supplement declining subscriptions. Leaders rather defensively point out that the National Theatre and Covent Garden accept business subsidy. It has its place for the WI too, but the relationship is more complex. For in the wider sense of the word the WI is very much a political organization, with a campaigning record on social issues that would do credit to any national pressure group.

It has sought from the start to encourage women to play a greater part in public life. It has operated skilfully in the margin between controversy and party politics. Partial, and possibly growing, economic dependence on sponsors creates the possibility of other tensions, not crude pressure of the "endorse our ketchup or lose your grant" kind, but subtler pressures to tailor the image, and perhaps the reality, to make the movement attractive to sponsors – to cultivate the affluent, to go easy on controversy, and so on. Those who sup with advertisers need a long spoon: but there is too much common sense in the WI for there to be undue fear of its forgetting that, and letting itself by drawn away from its true character.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Nuclear war: the over-riding issue

From Professor John H. Humphrey, FRS, and others

Sir, Policy statements of the main parties and their proposals for the social and economic future of this country are of very great importance to the people of Britain about to elect a new government. However, if our country were to be involved in a nuclear war, the social and economic systems about which we argue would become totally irrelevant to the survivors.

The possibility of nuclear war is a political matter of such overriding importance that it should transcend party politics. As doctors and scientists who have made a study of the foreseeable consequences of nuclear war, we are aware how dangerous is the threat posed by nuclear weapons, and deeply concerned that the vast build-up and deployment of these weapons by Nato and the Soviet Union should be halted and reversed. Similar concerns have indeed been expressed by the leaders of all the parties, though they differ about how to achieve this.

During the general election campaign clear thinking and discussion about these problems has become clouded by party stances – by the need of politicians to defend their past policies, by intemperate assumptions that the Soviet Union and the West are and must remain sworn enemies, and by suggestions that those who question the justification of deploying more nuclear weapons betray their country.

These obscure the real issue. What is ultimately at stake is the survival of our civilization, and voters and politicians should realize this.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN H. HUMPHREY, DOROTHY CROWFOOT HODGKIN, JOHN WARCUP CORNFORTH, RUDOLPH PEIERLS, RICHARD DOLL, MARTIN ROTH, PAUL FATT, MARTIN RYLE, ROBERT A. HINDE, M. H. F. WILKINS, R. HOFFENBERG,
7 Tenison Road,
Cambridge.
May 31.

Dual-key missiles

From Lord Kennet

Sir, Marshal of the RAF, Sir William Dickson, writes (June 2) that "the understanding about joint decision making" on the launching of United States nuclear weapons from Britain "has satisfied the heads of all governments of both our nations since 1951". It did not satisfy Mr Macmillan when he was Prime Minister and insisted on a dual-key arrangement for the American Thor missiles stationed here in 1958.

The present government says that to have a dual-key (as 96 per cent of people want) on the cruise missiles now would mean we should have to buy them. When the Government is asked if it has suggested a dual-key without buying them it does not answer.

Mr Heseltine's repeated comparison of the trust the United States shows for us in selling us Trident missiles without dual-key, with the mistrust we in the SDP/Liberal Alliance show for them in asking for dual-key on the cruise missiles, is a smokescreen. The Trident system (if we proceed with the purchase) would consist of British warheads fired from British boats, using British bases. The cruise system (if we accept it) would consist of American warheads fired by American missiles from British soil.

Does anyone think the United States would not require a dual-key on a wholly British nuclear weapon system stationed fifty miles west of New York?

Yours, etc,
WAYLAND KENNET,
House of Lords.
June 2.

Hedge against loss

From Mr Mark Totterdell

Sir, I was amused by the well-written irony of Mr Peter Adorian's letter (May 23), but I feel that his considerable sense of humour should not be allowed to conceal one vital point. There is an important difference between an automatic washing machine and a flail hedge cutter. They both save considerable time and effort, but the former does its particular job adequately, the latter does not.

As I am sure Mr Adorian is aware, if he continues to flail-trim his hedges instead of hand-laying them, they will eventually grow woody, straggly and thinly spaced, losing both their visual appeal and their efficiency as barriers. He then has the choice of supplementing them with unsightly fencing or removing them altogether.

This is his right, but I hope he would not have the audacity to claim that either result would be "rather attractive".

Yours faithfully,
MARK TOTTERDELL,
Clarkes Hill,
North Curry,
Taunton,
Somerset.
May 24.

Labour's interest in a Tory victory

From Mr George Watson

Sir, A [illegible] claim by the Chairman of the Conservative Party, Mr Cecil Parkinson, in the face of a rising tide of Alliance support, that Labour still has a chance in this election should remind us where, in the end, that chance comes from. It comes from an electoral system unique in western Europe, and the only one known to man ever likely to produce a large number of Labour seats in the Commons. The Conservatives have chosen to keep it. In other words, the Thatcher Government has chosen to keep Mr Foot's party alive.

Labour exists by grace and favour of the Tories, who slapped a preservation order on it years ago – conscious, no doubt, that it represents the best reason anyone is ever likely to find for voting Conservative. No doubt it would like to slap a preservation order on Mr Foot himself.

By the same token, all Labour leaders must be conscious that they have nothing much to fear from the Conservative government. They never did. A nagging doubt remains, however, in the minds of millions, and it is one that no Conservative leader has ever attempted to answer.

It is this. If Conservatives are as anti-socialist as they claim, why do they prefer the Labour Party to electoral reform?

Yours, &c,
GEORGE WATSON,
St John's College,
Cambridge.
June 1.

From Mr Stephen Carlill

Sir, One may have to be a comedian to support the Conservatives, (letter, May 31) but it appears, that in order to be a member of a Conservative cabinet the contrary qualifications are needed. In recent conversation with a very "dry" Conservative I expressed admiration for one of the "wet" Conservative ex-cabinet members – a liberal, civilised, cultured and highly intelligent man. In reply the "dry" Conservative said: "Mr . . . is no good – *he's got a sense of humour*".

Yours faithfully,
STEPHEN CARLILL,
77 Peterborough Road, SW6.

From Lady Sharp

Sir, Perhaps the real election issue is, or if not, ought to be, not so much which party's policies we support, as what style of government we want to see over the next four years: the Parliamentary democracy we have fought for over the years, and to which we are accustomed, or the prime ministerial dictatorship we seem to be developing, which will tolerate no difference of opinion, whether from an elected local authority, or from a parliamentary colleague, or indeed from anyone else who might be thought to carry some weight.

Fortunately, owing to the emergence of a third possible choice in the shape of the Alliance, we can if we so wish express our dislike of the new style of government without having to vote for the Labour Party whose policies we may not feel able to support.

Yours faithfully,
EVELYN SHARP,
The Old Post Office,
6 High Street,
Lavenham,
Sudbury,
Suffolk.
May 30.

From Professor Sir John Butterfield

Sir, If the polls are to be believed, those worthy defenders of our democracy in the past – the floating voters – have disappeared, netted by the major parties. If the results are correct, congratulations to the major parties, the media and the pollsters on a remarkable achievement in communication. But is it really true that only 5 per cent of the electorate is uncommitted? The implied 95 per cent response rate is hardly credible to someone used to medical enquiries involving questions put to *truly random* samples of the electoral roll across the country over the last 20 years.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN BUTTERFIELD,
Cambridge University School of Clinical Medicine,
Addenbrooke's Hospital,
Hills Road,
Cambridge.
May 30.

North-South divide

From the Leader of the Kent County Council

Sir, I was very sad to read the letter of Mr D. Blunkett, the Leader of Sheffield City Council published on May 27. Sad because it perpetuates the divided nation theme which can do little for the morale of the country at the present time.

Mr Blunkett should not believe that only the major cities of this land are suffering from recession. There are parts of the "affluent" south-east where the effects of world-wide recession are being felt and where there is a job for sensitive and caring local authorities to do. Their task will not be made any easier if they are in conflict with the central government.

The task is too important to be affected by political disagreement between authorities and whatever government may be returned on June 9. That is not to say there is not room for different political opinions in local government, indeed the effectiveness of local democracy frequently flourishes in such a climate. But Mr Blunkett should not put political considerations above his local authority responsibilities.

This country must be governed as one nation. Any attempt to use the independence of local authorities, particularly the major cities of this country which have such a proud record in the provision of local services, for the purpose of political division should be abhorred.

We have an immense task of reconstruction to tackle throughout the country. It will best be achieved by collaboration between local government and central government and not by conflict.

Yours faithfully,
ROBERT H. B. NEAME,
County Hall,
Maidstone,
Kent.
May 27.

Belgrano sinking

From Mr S. S. Garson

Sir, As one who has followed the Falklands Islands conflict closely, I really am amazed when I read (May 31) of Mr Brownjohn's worry over the sinking of the Belgrano. Has he forgotten we were at war with Argentina (aren't we still?) following their aggression and their intention to sink our ship – being so far away from our base. It was for the Admiral of the Fleet at the Falklands to decide whether to sink the Belgrano, and it is my opinion that he was aware there was imminent danger of the Belgrano sinking our ships even outside the exclusion zone. HM Government was correct in taking the Admiral's advice; and the Junta in BA were not surprised, only shocked, for they believed their Belgrano would demolish our fleet within or without the exclusion zone.

Yours faithfully,
S. S. GARSON,
17 Lichfield Gardens,
Richmond,
Surrey.

As she is spoke

From Dr M. J. Harte

Sir, Your report today (May 18) that British school leavers are lagging behind their European counterparts in foreign languages is not surprising, if our experience is any guide. After six years in Brussels we are returning to London with a seventeen-year-old daughter facing her final A-level year at school. At the British School of Brussels she has been studying for the London Board examination in colloquial French – but, search where we may, we can find no state school in London offering this course.

Academic French A-level courses have their place, but it is our experience that they do not hold the pupil's interest as the colloquial language course can do. So why is the latter not available? Could it be *that it is harder work to teach?*

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL J. HARTE,
Ave Lt Gen Pire 18,
1150 Brussels.
May 18.

Compulsory insurance

From Mr David Hancock

Sir, It is reported in today's *Times* (May 27) that Mrs Kitty Lever has been ordered to pay £250,000 in damages to the rider of a motorcycle who suffered severe brain damage after Mrs Lever's dog ran into the path of the motorcycle. Fortunately for both parties Mrs Lever had public liability insurance cover.

No one is never negligent. One momentary lapse (e.g. stepping from a pavement without looking properly and knocking a cyclist into the path of a passing vehicle) could *bankrupt the defendant* and leave the plaintiff with only derisory financial redress.

The idea is by no means new, but surely the time has come for some sort of compulsory public liability *insurance cover. The premuim* would be very small (Mrs Lever's was 10p a week) and it is difficult to imagine any rational person who has no vested interest opposing at least the principle.

Let us hope that the next Parliament will address itself to devising a suitable scheme without delay.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID HANCOCK,
89 Connaught Gardens, SW7.
May 27.

Equitable rating

From Councillor Richard Clarke

Sir, Having, during the last 12 months, introduced two motions directed firstly towards expanding the financial base for local property taxation and secondly towards establishing greater local control over local expenditure, I welcome your leader "Rate of decline" of May 24.

As you rightly say, none of the main parties address themselves seriously to the question of local revenue for local expenditure and from their utterances now and over recent years one can only conclude that, whilst giving lip service to local democracy, all parties are intent on gathering ever greater power to the centre. The battle for local government, if it is to be won, must be fought by local representatives working together rather than left as a party political issue.

Again, as you say, local property taxation has a long tradition as the main source of local authority revenue. It is one source which central government have not yet sought to tap for their own needs. The Association of County Councils, in its submission to the Minister on the recent green paper on the alternatives to domestic rates, expresses itself in favour of the continuation of a local tax on the occupation of property and calls for an examination of the whole basis of industrial and agricultural rating.

However, rates as at present collected are undoubtedly inequitable and detrimental to development, for the reasons set out in your leader. Yet it should not be beyond the wit of man to redesign the incidence of rates so that the charge falls more equitably on all property.

If local government is not to become a mere agency for the Civil Service some such source of local revenue responsive to local control and adequate for the purpose will have to be found.

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD CLARKE,
Sunflower Cottage,
Little London,
Lechlade,
Gloucestershire.
May 27.

Location of betting shops

From Miss Lucie Clayton

Sir, I write to inform you of a minor item of social and legal history, unreported elsewhere, which even at election time should not go unremarked.

On May 17 the Licensing Magistrates of the Petty Sessional Division of West London over-ruled counsel's argument on behalf of the objectors and granted a betting shop licence for premises attached to this college for girls.

The average age of our pupils is just under seventeen and we are an official examination centre both for our own and for girls from other colleges. The Betting, Gaming and Lotteries Act 1963 states that the magistrates may refuse an application if, having regard to the character or *location* of the premises (my italics), they are not suitable for use as a licensed betting shop.

If, Sir, being next to a girls' school is considered suitable for a betting shop, what could the legislators possibly have had in mind as being unsuitable? It may be that some of them are still around, perhaps even now hoping to become legislators again, so that they may be able to enlighten us.

There is one other point on which it would be interesting to have their comment. Under the Act objectors have no right of appeal.

Yours faithfully,
LUCIE CLAYTON,
Lucie Clayton Secretarial College,
168 Brompton Road, SW3.
June 1.

Islamic divorce law

From Mr K. Kishtainy

Sir, As an Iraqi lawyer and a Moslem married to a Cornish woman, I must correct the misconceptions aired by the Rev C. A. Roach of Cornwall (May 26). No woman is required to change her religion or nationality to marry a Moslem. No one asked my wife to do so when we were in Iraq. The kind of traditional village divorce "I divorce you thrice" mentioned by Rev Roach is invalid in Iraq. The husband has to apply to court and go through procedures of increasing difficulties.

The Islamic law stipulates maintenance for the divorced wife for a brief period and for the daughters until they are married, and the woman mentioned by him had no reason to "go on the streets". There are, however, law breakers and rogue husbands everywhere.

Islamic marriage is a form of civil contract with both parties having the right to include their own conditions. My advice to any worried British woman marrying a Moslem is to stipulate her own terms, like her absolute right to divorce him and receive heavy compensation in the form of *mahr* in the eventuality of divorce. Her problem is not one of embracing Islam but of her husband ignoring the tenets of Islam.

Yours faithfully,
K. KISHTAINY,
63 Compton Road,
Wimbledon, SW19.
May 26.

Volcanoes and weather

From Dr and Mrs Ward

Sir, The article from your correspondent John Witherow (May 25), prompts us to ask your readers whether there exist meteorological records of weather conditions prevailing in Western Europe immediately after 1824, when the numerous volcanoes in the region of Timanfaya on Lanzarote erupted with such locally devastating results.

A longer period of volcanic activity occurred during 1730-36 but we doubt the availability of records during these years. These we feel will be relevant to weather conditions recently prevailing, especially in the North West!

Yours faithfully,
MARGARET WARD,
RICHARD WARD,
Lister House,
6 St. Andrew's Street,
Blackburn,
Lancashire.
May 26.

On a clear day

From Group Captain Ralph Edwards (retd)

Sir, There must be a great many people who have struggled, as I have, through the darkness of night to the top of Tiger Hill above Darjeeling in anticipation of the ensuing dawn.

In clear weather this spectacle starts with the blushing of the tip of Everest well over 100 miles away and continues with ever-increasing brilliance until the scene is dominated by the comparative nearness of Kanchenjunga and the spectator is himself bathed in sunlight.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
RALPH EDWARDS,
Mannamead,
Green Close,
Hemingford Grey,
Huntingdon.
May 26.

From Mr A. A. H. Douglas

Sir, On a memorably clear day when I was aged 19 or 20 (and sixty years later I still have excellent long sight) I and a friend climbed to the top of Ben Ledi near Callander, Perthshire. From the summit we could clearly distinguish with the naked eye Goat Fell in Arran, in the Atlantic waters of the Firth of Clyde, and the Forth Bridge, in the waters of the North Sea.

Is there any other point in this island from which objects in both seas can be seen on a clear day?

Yours faithfully,
A. DOUGLAS,
Ashley,
Shalbourne,
Wiltshire.
May 26.



COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
June 2:
Mr A. C. Goodison was received in audience by The Queen and kissed hands on his appointment as Her Majesty's Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary at Dublin.
Mrs Goodison had the honour of being received by The Queen.
His Excellency Señor Licenciado Orlando Gabela and Señora de Gabela were received in farewell audience by Her Majesty and took leave upon His Excellency relinquishing his appointment as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary from Ecuador to the Court of St James's.
Mr P. W. Unwin was received in audience by The Queen and kissed hands on his appointment as Her Majesty's Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary at Budapest.
Mrs Unwin had the honour of being received by The Queen.
The Duke of Edinburgh, Colonel-in-Chief, Corps of Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers, this morning at Buckingham Palace received Major-General T. B. Palmer on his appointment as Director-General of Electrical and Mechanical Engineering, Major-General P. H. Lee on his appointment as Colonel Commandant of the Corps and Major-General H. Macdonald-Smith on his relinquishing the appointment.
His Royal Highness addressed the Royal United Servvices Institute, Whitehall, S.W.1.
Captain Anthony Milton, RM was in attendance.
The Duke of Edinburgh, Patron and Trustee, this afternoon at Buckingham Palace attended a Reception for young people who have reached the Gold Standard in The Duke of Edinburgh's Award.
His Royal Highness, Patron of the Incorporated Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, this evening attended the Annual Dinner of the School at Thornton Manor, Cheshire.
The Duke of Edinburgh, attended by Lieutenant-Commander Andrew Wynn, RN, travelled in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight.
By command of The Queen, the Viscount Long (Lord in Waiting) was present at Gatwick Airport – London this afternoon upon the arrival of the Governor-General of New Zealand and Lady Beattie and welcomed Their Excellencies on behalf of Her Majesty.

KENSINGTON PALACE
June 2: The Prince of Wales this evening presented The Prince of Wales' Award for Industrial Innovation and Production during a recording of *Tomorrow's World* at the BBC Television Centre, Wood Lane, W.12.
Mr Francis Cornish and Mr David Roycroft were in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
June 2: The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon this morning visited the Pro Corda Trust at Leiston Abbey House.
In the afternoon, Her Royal Highness visited the Craft Workshops and Young People's Camp at Thornham Magna.
The Hon Mrs Wills and Major The Lord Napier and Ettrick were in attendance.

YORK HOUSE
ST. JAMES'S PALACE
June 2: The Duke of Kent this morning took the salute at The Queen's Birthday Parade in Berlin.
Captain John Stewart was in attendance.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE
June 2: Princess Alexandra, as a Governor, was present this morning at the Annual Meeting of the Governors and General Council of King Edward's Hospital Fund for London at 21 Palace Court, W.2.
Her Royal Highness this evening attended a Reception at the Savoy Hotel and, as Patron, presented John Panchaud Medallions to five voluntary workers of the Cystic Fibrosis Research Trust.
Lady Mary Fitzalan-Howard was in attendance.

Princess Michael of Kent will attend a "Woman's World of Hair and Fashion" which is to be staged at the Kensington Exhibition Centre on June 29 in aid of the Elizabeth Garrett Anderson Hospital Appeal.

Princess Alexandra will be present at the Bob Hope British Classic Gala Dinner, in aid of Stars Organization for Spastics, at Grosvenor House hotel on September 20.

A memorial service for Sir George Beresford-Stooke will be held in the chapel of St Michael and St George, St Paul's Cathedral, on July 7 at noon.

A memorial service for Dr Herbert Howells, CH, will be held today at 5 pm in Westminster Abbey.

A memorial service for Desmond Arthur Reid, will be held at noon in the Guards' Chapel, Wellington Barracks, on Wednesday, June 8, 1983.

Forthcoming marriages

Dr C. N. Muir and Miss P. S. H. Mansfield
The engagement is announced between Neale, second son of Mrs Muir and the late Mr C. J. Muir, of Christchurch, New Zealand, and Sara, eldest daughter of the Hon Ralph and Mrs Mansfield, of 61 Fourth Avenue, Frinton-on-Sea, Essex. The marriage will take place in New Zealand in December.

Mr H. J. Stone and Miss A. T. Rowe
The engagement is announced between Henry James, son of Mr and Mrs J. H. V. Stone, of South Pool, south Devon, and Antonia Tanya, daughter of Mr Antony Rowe and The Hon Mrs Robert MacDonald, of South Pool, south Devon.

Mr S. W. B. Chalwin and Miss T. M. Young
The engagement is announced between Simon, son of Mrs P. M. G. Chalwin, of Wandsworth Common, London, and of Mr W. Chalwin, and Tessa, daughter of Captain and Mrs H. R. C. Young, of Petersfield, Hampshire.

Mr P. Clark and Miss A. M. Roose
The engagement is announced between Paul, son of Mr and Mrs W. S. Clark, of Christchurch, New Zealand, and Allyson, daughter of Mr and Mrs C. A. Roose, of Edensor, Chatsworth Park, Derbyshire.

Mr C. T. G. Dickens and Miss K. E. Dyble
The engagement is announced between Timothy, only son of Mr and Mrs C. R. Dickens, of Hinkley, Leicestershire, and Kerry, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs J. C. Dyble, of Sittingbourne, Kent.

Mr J. D. Field and Miss S. J. Cousins
The forthcoming marriage is announced between John, only son of Mr and Mrs K. J. Field, of Olney, Buckinghamshire, and Sarah Jane, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs A. T. Cousins, of Ontario, Canada.

Mr R. W. Hackett and Miss B. Vernon
The engagement is announced between Randall, son of Mr Randall W. Hackett, of New York, and Mrs James Leslie, of Locust Valley, and Jenni Vernon, daughter of Mr T. J. Vernon, of Saffron Walden, and Mrs S. M. Richardson, of Woodbridge.

Mr A. N. Hennah and Miss J. E. Pryke
The engagement is announced between Adrian, elder son of Mr and Mrs B. N. Hennah, of Shieldhill House, Biggar, Lanarkshire, and Jane, only daughter of Mr and Mrs H. R. Pryke, of Hoye, Kippington, Sevenoaks, Kent.

Mr D. A. Kaisel and Miss D. J. Ogle
The engagement is announced between David Allen, younger son of Mr and Mrs Kaisel, of Woodside, California, United States, and Deborah Jane, daughter of Mr and Mrs M. B. Ogle, of Skerraton, Buckfastleigh, Devon.

Mr R. W. Margesson and Mrs S. A. P. Newman
The engagement is announced between Richard, eldest son of Lt-Col and Mrs J. E. Margesson, of Maes-y-Gwenith, Chepstow, and Susan, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs M. W. Beresford-Peirse, of North Lyham, Alnwick.

Mr R. D. G. Sloan and Miss E. M. Fleming
The engagement is announced between Roderick, son of the late Mr Stanley Sloan and Mrs Avril Sloan, of St Andrews, Fife, and Elaine, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs James Fleming, of Caddington, Bedfordshire.

Mr R. Watson and Miss S. J. Briffett
The engagement is announced between Russell, younger son of Mr and Mrs Thomas A. Watson, of Leigh-on-sea, Essex, and Susan Jane, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Graham Briffett, of Little Sturt, Burford, Oxfordshire.

Mr D. J. W. Young and Miss W. M. Kingsbury
The engagement is announced between Duncan, younger son of Mr and Mrs Harold Young, of Grantown-On-Spey, Moray, Scotland, and Wendy, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Allan Kingsbury, of Cheltenham, Victoria, Australia.

Mr V. Edkins and Mrs Y. Maxam
The engagement is announced between Vincent Edkins, of Edgbaston, Birmingham, and Yvonne Maxam, of Colchester.

Marriage

Mr A. M. Morton and Miss L. S. Leatham
The marriage took place on May 28, 1983, in Winchester College Chapel between Mr Alexander Morton, of Bramdean, Hampshire, and Miss Louise Leatham, of Wimbledon.



Sir Christopher Leave Mayor of London, who unveil newly-commissioned bust of SaPepys in the Seething Lane Gardsterday, and Karen Jonzen, the scuThe unveiling was part of the anniversary celebrations of the diarth. After the earlier annpys Commemoration Service at St. Church, Hart Street a procession to the garden was led by Lt-Col C. D. L. Pepys, chairman of the Pepys Club. The garden is on the site of the Navy Office where Pepys worked and where much of his diary was written. The building was destroyed by fire about forty years after the great fire of London (Photograph: Suresh Karadia).

Luncheon

Butchers' Company
The Master of the Company, Mr R. J. L. presided at a court luncheon at Butchers' Hall yesterday. The of the guests was proposed J. K. Curran and a reply was by Mr J. Swinson, Chairman Livestock Marketing Co for Northern Ireland.

Dinners

Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine
The Duke of Edinburgh, of the Liverpool School of Medicine, was present at the annual vice-presidents' dinner which was held at Thornton Manor last night. Viscount Lever was host and Sir David Orr, presided. Others present:
Mr N H Baring, Dr W N Bee, A W Beeston, Dr M Chan, Mr H B C, Mr K Durham, Mr G J Ellerton, Professor Chevalier H M Gilles, G K Griffin, Mr C J Hall, Mr J N, Mr J A Lane, Professor W W Macdonald, Sir Ian McGregor, Emeritus B G Maegraith, Mr I L Rush, D J Sainsbury, Mr N D Toosey, the Duke of Westminster and Commander Andrew Wynn.

Institute of Meat
The annual dinner of the Institute of Meat was held at Butchers' Hall on Wednesday. Lord Vestey presided and Mr D. H. Dickinson in the chair. The toast of the guests was proposed by Mr C. Simore, vice-chairman of council and the response was given by Mr D. Samworth, Chairman of the Meat and Livestock Commission.

Service dinne

Royal Marines
Lieutenant-General Stuart R. Pringle presided at a d given by officers of the Royal Marines at the Commando Training Centre, Lympstone, near Exeter, yesterday evening. The guests:
Admiral Sir John Fieldhouse, Air Vice-Marshal J F G Howe, Major-General A G E Stewart Cox, Captain Klapp, RN, Lieutenant-Colonel D J USMC, the Rev Peter Price, the Mayor of Exeter, the Master of the Stationers' and Newspaper Makers' Company and the headmaster of Pangbourne College.

Memorial sece

Mr A Spanswick
A memorial service Mr Albert Spanswick was held Martin-in-the-Fields yesterd: The Rev Austen Williams ofted. Mr Len Murray, general sary of the Trades Union Coss, read the lesson and Mr Keth Redmore led the prayers. Mr id Williams, General Secretary ae Confederation of Health See Employees, gave an address.

Birthdays day

Professor Sir R Allen, 77; Sir Robert B Black, Lord Brandon of Oakbrook, 63; Patrick Cargill, 65; Mr Tony Co, 58; The Hon William Douglas-Home, 71; Dr R N Franklin, 48; General Sir Michael Gow, 59; Sir Francis Griffin, 79; Miss Anita Harris, 41; Dr Michael Jaffe, 60; Mr C Meads, 47; the Hon Sir Con O'Neill, 71; Sir Harry Pitt, 69; Mr H T Ross, 80; Sir Edward Wayne, 81; Mr Malcolm Wilcox, 62.

Latest wis

Thomas, Baron Williamson of Eccleston, of Alderley Edge, Cheshire, general secretary of the National Union of General and Municipal Workers 1946-61, Labour MP for Brigg, Lincolnshire, 1945-48, and president of the TUC 1956, left estate not exceeding £25,000.

Mr Simon Neel ick, of Dorchester, Dorset, farmer who was due to succeed as chairman of the Fatstock Marketing Corporation a few days after his death in a road accident, left estate valued at £765,745 net.

Sale room

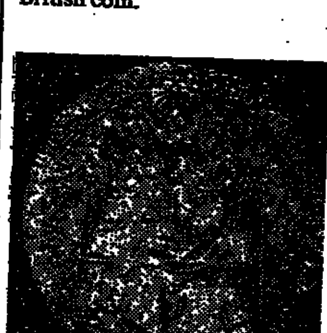
Sovereign fetches £36,000 record

By Huon Mallalieu

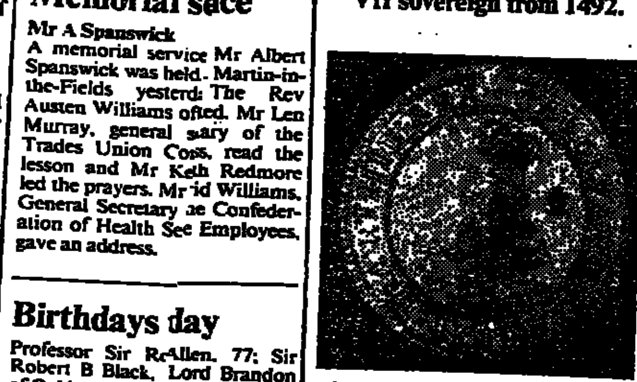
It is not necessary to be outrageously rich to collect English gold coins, nor is it essential to be a Silas Marner to enjoy their aesthetic and romantic associations.

Yesterday Spink Auctions offered the collection of R. Duncan Beresford-Jones, which had been accumulated since 1951 at a cost of about £25,000.

Mr Beresford-Jones had intended to acquire the 100 best available English coins, and he more than succeeded. The sale of his collection, which he attended, produced £586,230, with all of the 138 coins on offer finding new buyers and a new record price of £36,000 for any British coin.



Sold for £36,000, a Henry VII sovereign from 1492.



Sold for £32,000, a Charles I Oxford mint Triple Unite of 1643.

That was a Henry VII sovereign which was described as "short of flan, but very fine and excessively rare, one of the most spectacular coins in the entire English series". It went to M. Bord, a London dealer acting on behalf of a private client, for £3,000 more than had been reached before at auction (estimate £25,000).

Only four examples are known, and only one other is in private hands. The present example was last sold in 1956, when it made £1,400 and was bought by Spink, who then sold it to Mr Beresford-Jones.

Another particularly fine coin was an Oxford mint Triple Unite of 1643, which went to a collector at £32,000 against an estimate of about £20,000.

Only one other example is known, and the coin is inscribed with slogans of the time linking Charles I with the Protestant religion and the liberty of Parliament. It is one of those made from the melted down plate of the Oxford colleges.

The cheapest coin from the collection was a Henry VIII first coinage Half-Angel in fine condition, which went to a collector from Texas at £180 (estimate £150), and a London light coinage Half-Ryal of Edward IV, which showed wear but was scarce, could be had at £360 (estimate £350).

Other leading prices included £28,500 for an Edward VI third period sovereign of 30 shillings, which was also described as excessively rare (estimate £20,000), and £24,000 for a less fine, but still rather spectacular, Henry VII sovereign (estimate £12,500).

In a sale of autograph letters, documents and maps held by Phillips in New York on Wednesday, $49,000, or £19,600, was paid by an American collector for a letter written by George Washington in his retirement in 1797 (estimate $5,000 to $6,000).

University news

Oxford
Election
MAGDALEN COLLEGE: Honorary fellowship: The Rt Hon The Lord Gardiner of Kittisford.

Hull
Honorary degrees were conferred on the following yesterday at a special ceremony:
MA: Miss Mary Noel Baxter, teacher and missionary. Raymond Illingworth, cricketer, Clive Hubert Lloyd, cricketer.
LLB: The Right Honourable Lord Pitt of Hampstead, His Excellency Sir Shridath Surendranath Ramphal, secretary-general of the Commonwealth since 1975; Aston Zachariah Preston, vice-chancellor of the University of the West Indies since 1974.
DLitt: Cyril Lionel Robert James, one of the first organizers of the pan-African movement.

Sussex
GRANTS
Science and Engineering Research Council: £224,216 to Dr M Springford for research on main body effects in metals. £73,092 to Professor J Sang, for analysis of drosophila gene organization by cell transformation; £32,610 to Dr P Nurse for research on the role of gene transcription in cell cycle control of the fission yeast schizosaccharomyces pombe; £35,380 to Dr N Dombey for research on gauge theories; £52,232 to Professor R Tayler and Dr J D Barrow for observational cosmology; £35,750 to Professor C Freeman, of the Science Policy Research Unit, for research on the role of productive life in the development of manufacturing industry.
Department of Energy: £20,460 to Dr J Surrey of the Science Policy Research Unit, for the research on a fuel substitution model of the UK steam raising market.
Medical Research Council: £81,278 to Dr V Pain for research on the regulation of initiation of protein synthesis in skeletal muscle by diabetes, starvation and insulin treatment; £33,133 to Dr M Wallis for analysis of binding site specificity of monoclonal harmones; £47,120 to Dr A J Leigh-Brown for research on the transposition of movable genetic elements in drosophila populations.
Agricultural Research Council: £32,084 to Dr A Moore for research on metabolite transport in plant tissue mitochondria.
Social Science Research Council £20,700 to Dr P Ambrose and Dr P Dickens for a study of housebuilding in western Europe; £26,080 to Dr C Kemp for research on planting ideology in Sri Lanka.

Southover Manor School, Lewes

It is hoped that as many old girls and staff of Southover Manor School, Lewes, as possible will come to the reunion at school on Saturday, June 25, starting at 11.00 am. As our records are somewhat incomplete please notify the secretary of any old girls or staff who are able to attend.

Rugby School

The following entrance scholarships have been awarded:
Major Scholarships: G D Smyth, St David's School, Huddersfield; M R Evans, Packwood Haugh, Ruyton XI Towns, Shrewsbury; W D Harper-Jones, Caldicott, Farnham Royal, Bucks; S J M Colton, Arnold Lodge, Leamington Spa, Warwicks; A D McClellan, Great Houghton School, Northampton; D B Lee, Bilton Grange, Dunchurch, Rugby; A D Garside, Rydal Preparatory School, Colwyn Bay.
Minor scholarships: T M Hall, Beech Hall, Macclesfield and Rugby School; R W A Manners, Packwood Haugh, Ruyton XI Towns, Shrewsbury; A J Marston, King's House, Richmond and Rugby School; R A Given, Winchester House, Brackley and Rugby School; A W Outerbock, Forres, Swanage, Dorset and Rugby School; M Sloan, Emscote Lawn, Warwick.
Music exhibitions: M R Dorey, Forres, Swanage, Dorset; A J Gambier, St John's College School, Cambridge.
Talbot Kelly art scholarship: J S R Smith, Aldwickbury School, Harpenden and Rugby School.

Archaeology

Romans' diet provides food for thought

By Norman Hammond, Archaeology Coresspondent

The recovery of steroids, including cholesterol, from the ditches of a Roman fort in Scotland has shed new light on the diet of soldiers defending the Empire's northernmost frontier.

The steroids, together with plant remains, suggest that a larger proportion of the food came from fruit and vegetables, rather than meat, than had been estimated.

The investigation, carried out by three botanists from Glasgow University, was the result of excavations at Bearsden Roman Fort, on the outskirts of Glasgow, excavated by Dr David Breeze over the past decade.

The fort lies on the Antonine Wall, built in the middle of the second century AD, and included a suite of baths and latrines in an annexe on its eastern side. Recent excavations have shown that the latrines probably discharged through the rampart into the end of the eastern ditches and it was from this location that the most productive samples were obtained.

Nine pollen samples were taken from a layer of silt at the bottom of the ditch, 1–2 metres thick. Fifty per cent of the pollen was found to be from trees, including birch, alder and hazel, while more than 100 taxa of plants were also represented as macroscopic debris.

There was a large quantity of wheat debris, mainly fragments of pericarp similar to those found in wholemeal bread after passage through the digestive system: the wheat had been coarsely ground, and several cornfield weed seeds were found mixed in with it.

There were only a few grains of barley, and the authors note that barley is recorded as having been mainly for horse fodder, and wheat reserved for the troops: "Roman horse turds from Lancaster have recently been found to contain abundant barley and little wheat", they comment in their report.

Since Bearsden was a cavalry fort and some other plant remains recovered could have been from fodder, the ditch deposits seem most likely to be from legionary lavatories.

In a further attempt to investigate the contents of the probable latrine outflow, gas-liquid chromatography was used, together with thin-layer chromatography and mass spectrometry to detect sterols and bile acids.

The ditch deposits proved to have a high concentration of C29 sterols, the group which includes coprosterol and mass spectrometry confirmed the presence of the substance in a similar ratio to other stanols (a sterol derivative) to that found in preserved human faeces. Cholesterol, however, was not abundant.

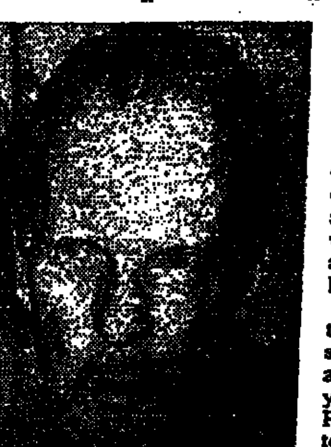
"It seems certain that part of the organic material has been derived from faeces, during the short period of the Roman occupation and in all probability from the latrines adjacent to the bath-house. The results from Bearsden, both biological and chemical, point to the possibility of "primarily a vegetable diet"

Source: *Journal of Archaeological Science* (Vol 10, 139-152, 1983).

OBITUARY

PRINCE CHARLES OF BELGIUM
Regent in the postwar period

Prince Charles of Belgium, who died in hospital in Ostend on June 1 at the age 79, had acted as Regent of Belgium in the absence of his brother King Leopold III from the Liberation of his country by the Allies until 1950. During this period, though it was one of considerable political instability, Belgium nevertheless reestablished its welfare system and rebuilt its armed forces besides embarking on the process of forging close links with the Netherlands and Luxembourg.



King Leopold had been interned by the Germans in September 1944 and at the end of the war the Belgian parliament decided that his presence on the throne would be undesirable for Belgium, largely due to a feeling in the country that if not actually collaborating with the Germans he had at least acquiesced over readily in the fact of the German occupation.

Charles Theodore Henri Antoine Meinrad, Count of Flanders, Prince of Belgium, was born in Brussels on October 10, 1903, the second son of King Albert and Queen Elisabeth of the Belgians. His sister Marie-José was formerly Queen of Italy.

On the outbreak of the 1914-18 War, when Prince Charles was 11 years old, he was sent to the Royal Naval College at Dartmouth, and later completed his training as a naval officer in HMS Renown. Throughout his life he retained his early enthusiasm for the sea, and compiled for himself a remarkable library on naval affairs, particularly on the maritime history of Belgium.

During the years of the German occupation of his country, from 1940 to 1944, Prince Charles lived in retirement near Ostend, holding no official position; and towards the end of the occupation went into hiding with the Belgian *maquis* to avoid the deportation suffered by King Leopold and his family.

On September 20, 1944, when Belgium was liberated by Allied forces, Prince Charles was unanimously elected as Regent. His brother remained in German hands until May 7, 1945, and after that was prevented from returning to Belgium by the outbreak of a grave political crisis, centring to some extent round the King's conduct during the war years.

King Leopold had been extremely popular before the outbreak of war, and a considerable part of the population continued to hold him in great esteem and wished for his speedy return; but this was unacceptable to many others, including the government of the day. Therefore the two Belgian Houses of Parliament, invoking articles 82 and 85 of the Constitution, decreed that it was not possible for the King to reign, and requested his brother to continue in the office of Regent.

The task was not altogether to the taste of Prince Charles, who was by temperament inclined to a quiet and even solitary mode of life. But for five more years he continued as Regent of Belgium, and helped guide his country through an exceedingly difficult period of social reconstruction. This was exacerbated by the continuing ethnic quarrel between Flemish and Walloon Belgians – in which a profound disagreement about the destiny of King Leopold also played its part.

In 1950 the internal crisis on the royal question was at last solved by King Leopold's abdication in favour of his young son Baudouin; thus Prince Charles was at last able to quit the life of the Court and of politics, and to return to the books, the music and the sea that he had always loved. He became more and more of a recluse, at his villa in Raversyde, near Ostend, and his property at Rethy, near Tournhout. He filled his residences with beautiful and curious *objets d'art* that few people ever saw and in addition made some name for himself as a painter, exhibiting under his Flemish title, Karel van Vlaanderen.

Among the most valued of his many honours, Prince Charles was an honorary lieutenant of the British Royal Navy. He also was a Knight Grand Cross of the Orders of Charles III, of Mohammed Ali, of the Elephant, of the Seraphins, of St Olav, of Elmar Aala, and of Charles I; a Bailiff Grand Cross of Honour and Devotion of the Military and Sovereign Order of Malta; and Knight Grand Cross of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem. He held a special Grand Ribbon of the Chinese Order of the Propitious Clouds, and the Grand Cross of the Orders of the Legion of Honour, of Victory, of the Saviour, of the Netherlands Lion. He was also Chief Commander of the American Legion of Merit.

ANNA SEGHERS

Anna Seghers, the East German writer and author of the best selling *Das Siebte Kreuz, The Seventh Cross* (1942) made into a film by Fred Zimmerman – has died at the age of 82. She was one of the most celebrated of Eastern block writers both in her own country and in the Soviet Union; but, although she was a committed Communist writer, her own work was never tainted by Stalinism or approval of the excessess of the East German regime.

Anna Seghers was born Anna Reiling in Mainz on November 19, 1900, the only child of a Jewish antique dealer. Later, after her marriage in 1925 to the Hungarian sociologist Communist Laszlo Radvanyi, she became known in private life as Netti Radvanyi. She studied art, history and sinology at the Universities of Cologne and Heidelberg, and became a Communist when she joined the students society of Left Wing intellectuals.

She wrote her PhD thesis at Heidelberg; it was called *Jews and Jewry in the Work of Rembrandt* (1924). At Heidelberg, too, she met her future husband who had also earned a doctorate there.

Her first story signed simply "Seghers", appeared in *Frankfurter Zeitung* in 1926, and immediately aroused the interest of literary Germany. Her first major publication was the novel *Aufstand der Fischer von St Barbara* (1928) translated in 1930 as *The Revolt of the Fishermen*. This is a short, powerful, if crude account of a revolutionary who incites fishermen to action against a monopoly; they are unsucesssful but learn a meaning in life.

At first people thought this book was by a man – it, too, was signed "Seghers" – and were surprised to discover it was in fact by a "shy young woman with a round peasant-like face, veiled deep-set eyes, and thick pigtails wound round her broad forehjead." She was just then in hospital, having her first baby. Her novel was awarded the Kleist Prize. On the strength of this debut she visited London, but it is said the literati of that time "found it hard to lionise her." However, the novel was successsfully filmed in Moscow by Erwin Piscator, in 1934. She now began to call herself Anna Seghers.

She followed her first success with a book of stories, *Wege zur amerikanischen Botschaft* (1930) translated in 1931 as *On the way to the American Embassy*, about wretched poor folk whose days seem "endless and thin like stretched elastic". She also wrote another novel, *Die Gesahrten* (1932) *The Companions* about Eastern European and Chinese revolutionaries and their adversities. It was clear that, quite apart from the passionately didactic content of her fiction, she was a born storyteller, and one who never stooped to manipulation of character or incident in order to make a point.

With Hitler's rise to power the Jewish Anna Seghers, her husband and their two small children Peter and Ruth had no future in Germany. They fled to Paris in 1933, where she wrote three novels – on the proceeds of which she supported the family. Back in Nazi Germany her books were burned and banned; in Paris she supported Andre Gide's committee for the foundation of a "German Library of the Burned Books".

Soon after war was declared, the French government threw her husband into the concentration camp at Le Vernet. She was working on what was to be her most famous novel, *Das siebte Kreuz*, translated as *The Seventh Cross* in 1943. When the Nazis occupied Paris she hid, with her children and escaped into unoccupied France. Eventually the Exiled Writers' Committee of the League of American Writers secured the release of her husband, and passage for the whole family to America. They went to Mexico where they remained until 1947. While living there Anna Seghers was one of the leading lights of the Mexican anti-Fascist colony, and published a newspaper *Free Germany*.

The Seventh Cross, which many will know in the filmed version starring Spencer Tracy in one of his most memorable roles, is about seven fugitives from a German concentration camp. Only one survives and this is his story. It is an exciting story of flight, and must surely survive as a classic escape novel: a humane and lucid book, redolent with compassion, and wholly realistic.

When Anna Seghers returned to East Germany in 1947 it was as the doyenne of Communist novelists. The novels she had written in Mexico, *Die Toten bleiben Jung* (1949) translated as *The Dead Stay Young* in 1950, is somewhat coarse, seeing people as divided into wicked reactionaries and good revolutionaries. But it does not glorify revolution or excess – it was less strident even than the ambiguous Brecht in his extra-literary pronouncements.

Anna Seghers's later novels were certainly "Socialist-realist" but in her case this mattered little because she was naturally a straightforward narrative writer – and at all times it was the ideas of the brotherhood of man, and justice, rather than Marxist ideology and dogma that appealed to and inspired her. Most Western readers have felt this appeal and responded to it.

Anna Seghers was proficient in the shorter forms, and was a penetrating essayist, writing interestingly and undogmatically on Tolstoy, Dostoyevsky, and others. All her writings abound in vitality.

DAME ELSIE ABBOT

Dame Elsie Abbot, DBE, who died on May 26 at the age of 75, was Third Secretary HM Treasury from 1958 to 1967.
Lord Bancroft writes:
Elsie Abbot holds a special place in the memories of the many colleagues who served with her. Starting her career in the prewar Post Office, she became one of the first, if not the first, woman civil servant to jump over the marriage ban – getting married without being required to resign. Shortly after the war she transferred to the Treasury where she became the only woman Deputy Secretary, specializing in management matters. She was a quiet pioneer.

Small, slight and engaging, she achieved her preeminence by a fine mind which one expects in an Oxford double first; by a gentleness which masked a tenacious will; and by giving and receiving in return remarkable loyalty and affection.

She will be especially remembered by the postwar entrants to the Treasury, a lot of them fresh from the Forces. I know, because I was one of them. She taught us by example all the traditional virtues of the Service (to which she was passionately devoted), and added a dash of her own sharp wit and mockery. We remained her life-long friends. For many years after her retirement she and her husband, Derry, himself a distinguished civil servant, held an annual party at their home which her former colleagues looked forward enormously to attending. They were joyful and uproarious occasions.

Elsie Abbot personified the best aspects of the British public service; but it is, too, for a much-loved friend that we mourn. She contributed a great deal to the common good of our country in her unassuming and delightful way. We are all in her debt.

Our deepest sympathy goes to Derry and to her son and daughter.

Mr Herbert David Ziman, who was Literary Editor of *The Daily Telegraph* from 1956 to 1968, died on May 29 at the age of 81. From 1930 to 1933 he was Museum, Library and Archaeological Correspondent of *The Times*.

Lady Noble, wife of Sir Peter Noble, Principal of King's College, London, from 1952 to 1968, died at home in Edinburgh on May 29 at the age of 83.

Mr John Vickers Naisby, MC, QC, who died on May 16, was a well known Admiralty lawyer and served as Lloyd's Appeal Arbitrator.

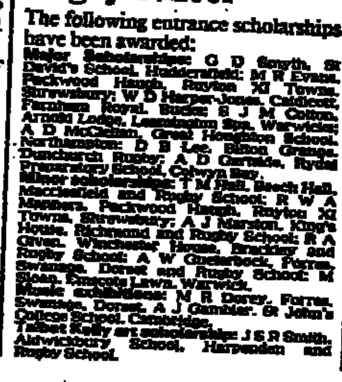
MR CHARLES GARDNER

Mr Charles Gardner, OBE, who has died aged 71, was one of the first radio journalists and for many years one of the best-known figures in the British aviation industry.

Charles Gardner was with Richard Dimbleby and Wynford Vaughan Thomas one of the BBC's first radio reporters. He became the BBC's first Air Correspondent in 1937 and is remembered for his vivid eye-witness description of an air-battle over the English Channel in the early days of the war.

From 1940 to 1945, he served in the Royal Air Force, first as a Coastal Command pilot in the North Atlantic, Middle East and Far East theatres, then in staff appointments in the Far East, where he was attached to the personal staff of Lord Louis Mountbatten.

After the war, he rejoined the BBC as Air Correspondent, then in 1953 moved into the aircraft industry itself as Assistant to the Managing Director of Vickers-Armstrongs (Aircraft), Sir George Edwards, later becoming Manager of Information and Public Relations. He worked very closely with Edwards and, when the British Aircraft Corporation was formed in 1960, was appointed Publicity Manager, a position he held until his retirement in 1977.



صحكنا من الاهل

Investment and Finance

City Editor
Anthony Hilton

THE TIMES

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STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index: 698.7 down 5.9
FT Gilts: 82.55 up 0.38
FT All Share: 432.23 down 1.75
Bargains: 19,190
Tring Hall USM Index: 167.0 down 1.3
Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones Index 8,517.88 down 31.82
Hongkong: Hang Seng Index 919.34 down 3.81
New York: Dow Jones Average (latest) 1,205.93 up 3.72

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE
Sterling $1.5835 down 70 pts
Index 86.8 down 0.6
DM 4.0225 down 0.0325
FrF 12.09 down 0.11
Yen 377.50 down 4.25
Dollar
Index 124.4 down 0.4
DM 2.5373 down 116 pts
Gold
$413 unchanged
NEW YORK LATEST
Gold $410.00
Sterling $1.5910

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:
Base rates 10
3 month interbank 10¹/₁₆ - 10⁹/₁₆
Euro-currency rates:
3 month dollar 9¼ - 9⅛
3 month DM5⅞ - 5¾
3 month 16⅛ - 16¼

ECGD Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance Scheme IV Average reference rate for interest period April 6 to May 3 1983 inclusive: 10.304 per cent.

PRICE CHANGES

Fitch Lovell 153p up 3p
H Samuel 'A' 120p up 8p
Assoc News 303p up 10p
Black & Edge 79p up 11p
Air Call 340p up 22p
Lon Liv Trust 142p down 3p
BP 384p down 2p
Beecham 380p down 28p
GKN 155p down 3p
Hawker 364p down 8p

TODAY

Interims: Dobson Park Industries, Johnson and Firth Brown, Messina
Finals: Computer and Systems Engineering, Dwek Group, Garford-Lilley Industries, Keep Investment Trust.
Economic statistics: Unemployment (May, provisional), unfilled vacancies (May, provisional), Car and Commercial vehicle production (April, final).

NOTEBOOK

● **Habitat Mothercare**, the retailing group, reported a 24 per cent increase in pretax profits at £22.85m calculated on an annual basis.
● **UBM**, one of Britain's biggest builders' merchants, turned last year's £2m loss into a £2.8m profit before tax. The group, with an enhanced market rating, is looking for diversification.

Page 18

Options go-ahead for unit trusts

Unit trusts have been given the go-ahead to invest in traded options. The Secretary of State for Trade has issued a general permission for trusts to invest in traded options following three years of negotiations between the Unit Trust Association and the Department of Trade.

Standard clauses to be inserted in trust deeds are still being agreed with the DoT but should be completed within the next few days and circulated to UTA members.

● **WINE FLOWS:** Sales of table wines in Britain rose by more than 24 million litres in the 12 months to February 1-1, an increase of 8.31 per cent over the previous year, according to the Wine and Spirit Association. However, sales of sherry and vermouth declined by more than 11 per cent to 90.6 million litres.

● **BTR VETO:** BTR and its associates now control more than 25 per cent of Thomas Tilling, the company said. It is now in a position to block any sale of associate companies by Tilling.

● **BISHOP'S LOSS:** Food retailers Bishop's, which has 70 shops, has lost more on wholesaling, baking and central computer costs than it made through its supermarkets. The result is a loss of £919,000 after tax and extraordinary items for the year to February 26, against a profit of £426,000.

● **DUNLOP YES:** Shareholders of Dunlop Holdings have voted overwhelmingly to approve the company's report and accounts for 1982 and to re-elect Mr Colin Hope, director of the European tyre division, to the board, in the poll demanded at the company's annual meeting on Tuesday.

WALL STREET

Opening rush steadies

New York (AP-DJ) – Stocks held steady in early trading as analysts continued to watch interest rates closely.

Treasury issues also traded below their opening highs. Fed funds were at 8.75 where they opened.

The Dow Jones industrial average was up about 3.5 points at 1,205.52. It had been up six earlier. The transportation average was up a fraction.

Advancing issues were seven to three ahead of declines.

Turnover slowed from active trading in the opening moments to a more moderate rate. In the first hour about 25 million shares changed hands, about a million more than the same time on Wednesday.

"The market is strong because of the decline in interest rates in recent months", Mr John Groome, senior vice-president of US Trust Co, said. "However, I don't look for any substantial decline in rates from here. We've had the major move down already.

"I don't want to be too pessimistic", he said, "but I do think the easiest path for the market is going to be down from here on out."

However, Mr Malcolm C. Wilson, vice-president and director of Equity Research for Provident National Bank in Philadelphia, said: "We don't see a significant correction in the immediate future."

The retailers advanced on reports of healthy sales increases in May. Woolworth was up 1.125 at 32.375, R. H. Macy up 0.375 at 51.125, and K. Mart up 1.375 at 32.

Upjohn was ahead 1.875 to 62.125, Boeing up 1.25 at 42.5, Scoa Industries up 1.625 at 30.25, Ford up 1.25 at 50, and Chrysler up 0.5 at 26.875.

Trading improves at BP

By Michael Prest

Higher production from the North Sea and lower losses from its chemical and refined product sales helped British Petroleum double first-quarter profits, adjusted for the cost of replacing oil stocks. It increased its figure from £102m in 1982 to £201m in 1983.

On the more commonly used historical cost basis, however, pretax profits were only £3m higher at £433m. But these figures include stock losses – estimated by the industry at £102m – incurred when the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries cut its price last March.

BP has insisted for a long while that the replacement-cost figure gives a clearer indication of the underlying trend. The difference is highlighted by the importance of Sohio, BP's American subsidiary. Sohio's net contribution in the quarter was £113m (up from £110m), more than the BP's group's profit before extraordinary items of £74m (against £91m) on the historical cost convention.

But while Sohio's oil production and revenue fell, the effect being masked by the appreciation of the dollar, BP's share of production from the North Sea rose from an average of 440,000 barrels per day to 496,000 barrels per day. Operating profit from these and related operations was £303m compared with £252m.

The most important changes, however, were in the previously very troubled oil products and chemicals divisions, which City analysts now believe to be on the mend. Although demand for oil products is still depressed, trading losses fell from £114m to £15m.

Formal offer rejected by 'Tory'

Trafalgar attacks P&O's financial position and 'poor management'

By Our Financial Staff

Trafalgar House, owner of the QE2 and the Ritz Hotel, yesterday launched its first broadside in the near £300m takeover battle for control of P & O, Britain's biggest shipping company.

Mr Nigel Broackes, Trafalgar chairman, said that P & O was in a financial straitjacket. It had a weak financial position, had reported an 18 per cent profits drop for last year and had assets valued at £150m more than they were worth.

But Trafalgar's all-share bid launched early last month is still viewed by the City as a sighting shot.

At last night's price of 17p, Trafalgar's five-for-four share swop values P & O 's shares closed last night at 202p, after dipping to 197p.

Mr Oliver Brooks, managing director of P & O said: "We still think this is a derisory offer. I believe Mr Broackes's intention is serious but not with this level of bid."

He pointed out that the share issue was not underwritten and therefore costing Trafalgar nothing to make at the moment. It is believed that the engineering and energy group BTR spent £6m getting its £650m Tilling takeover bid Britain's largest underwritten.

"I can't give you figures, but we now have the results of an independent valuation of our assets which shows Trafalgar's terms are 'insufficient'," Mr Brooks said.

Mr Broackes, speaking in Cunard's new 25,000-ton luxury passenger liner, Vistasjord, said that those looking for higher terms should think again.

"There is no reason to change these terms unless they come up with something exceptional in their defence. In the last four bids, we haven't raised our terms."

Trafalgar said, in its formal offer document prepared in a chatty style by the Saatchi and Saatchi advertising agency, that it believes P & O's present predicament is largely attributable to poor management which offers no evidence to suggest that it is capable of reversing the company's flagging fortunes.

Contrasting the two businesses, Trafalgar says that Bovis, P & O's construction and house-building group, has produced an erratic profits record that the group's £300m worth of shipping assets contributed only £1m to last year's pretax profits and that its oil and gas business constituted only of trading oil products since its sale of its interest in the North Sea's Beatrice field.

As for Trafalgar itself, the company said that it looked polling day next week should bring further news of its present trading prospects.



Takeover rivals: P&O's Inchcape and Trafalgar's Broackes.

Meanwhile, P & O will today start to repel potential boarders with advertisements in the press. It will tell its 50,000 shareholders to do nothing. It's formal defence document is due in about a fortnight.

Meanwhile, all sides are arguing before the Office of Fair Trading. Both P & O unions have given evidence against Trafalgar making a takeover, and it is believed the Ministry of Defence will submit evidence on its worries over the strategic implications of having so much of Britain's merchant fleet owned by one company.

Mr Broakes believed that the OFT is more concerned with a thorough review of the entire British shipping industry rather than the monopoly implications of the bid.

A decision on the OFT's recommendation is expected to be made by the Secretary of State before the bid closing date of the bid, on June 23.

The general election has bought added uncertainty to the takeover, and analysts believe that the real battle will not start until mid-June.

... to reporting another ... next December; and ... that, by contrast, Inchcape, the P & O had told shareholders ... annual report that it was ... to forecast results for ... annual meeting on

Beecham's 17pc rise disappoints City

By Jeremy Warner

Beecham Group, the pharmaceuticals and consumer-products company, disappointed the stock market yesterday when it reported pretax profits for the year to the end of last March of £237.1m.

Although profits were 17 per cent higher than the £202m of the year before, they fell well short of the £245m to £250m that stockbrokers had expected. The group's shares fell 28p to 380p, wiping £183m off the company's Stock Exchange value and contributing to the sharp fall in the *FT* 3-share index.

Brokers had expected that fluctuating exchange rates during the course of the year would add more than £20m to Beecham's profits, but the actual figure was only £13.5m.

In addition, price reductions for pharmaceutical products officially dictated in Japan during the second half of the year damaged the contribution from one of the group's most important markets. Trading profits from Asia and Australia were only £3m higher at £36m and in local currency terms were even less good.

However, outside Japan, the results were in line with expectations, once the effects of exchange rate differences are ironed out.

The outstanding performance was in the United States where strong growth from both pharmaceuticals and consumer products boosted trading profits from the Americas by 35 per cent to £50.6m.

Beecham Group
Year to 31.3.83
Pretax profit £237.1m (£201.9m)
Stated earnings 22.9p (18.22p)
Turnover £1702.4m (£1407m)
Net final dividend 5p making 9.1p (8p)
Share price 380p, down 28p
Yield 3.4%

Aquafresh, which has expensively carved itself a 12 per cent share of the United States toothpaste market in the two years since it was launched, moved from losses into profits for the first time. Other mature consumer products, such as Brylcreem did well, and there was also some benefit from new acquisitions.

The only black spot in the US was the Jovan cosmetics business which, in common with the rest of the industry, faced difficult trading conditions.

Worldwide, the consumer products side of the group overtook pharmaceuticals in providing the greater part of the group's growth.

On the pharmaceuticals side, products which have been on the market for several years, such as the antibiotic Amoxil and appetite-control drug Fastin, had another year of exceptionally strong growth.

Gilt offer finds few takers despite eager market rally

By Our Financial Staff

The Government's new £1,000m gilt offering was heavily undersubscribed at yesterday's tender. The Bank of England announced that applications for the 10¼ per cent Treasury convertible stock 1987 were allotted in full at the £98.25 minimum tender price. Market sources suggested that less than £100m had been taken up.

Although the gilts market rallied modestly yesterday morning after the overnight rise in United States bond markets, dealers said the new stock was still expensive, judged either as a short or a long.

Investors were not prepared to pay a premium for the conversion option – a device the Government has been using to avoid crowding out industry from the long bond market. However, dealers expected some switching today in to the new ... from other convertibles.

... gilts were still ... to gains of about ... yesterday after being ... higher at one stage. ... market is still ... lower than at the ... week when the new ... stock was announced.

A normal reaction to last big rise, the gilts market ... so become more cautious ... the prospect for US interest ... and the pound.

How ... dollar interest rates ... reversing most of the ... day's gain, the dollar ... for some profit-taking, ... 16 points down against ... Deutschemark at DM 2.5 ... day's US money supply ... also expected to show ... after the recent sharp ... rich prompted fears that the Federal Reserve may tighten credit.

In light trading because of holidays in some European centres, sterling also met some profit-taking, falling 70 points to $1.5835 against the dollar and 3S1/4 pfennings to DM 4.0225 against the German currency. Its trade-weighted value slipped 0.6 to 86.8.

The pound's rapid climb of recent weeks was reflected in a sharp increase in Britain's official gold and foreign currency reserves in May. They jumped by an underlying $233m, after taking account of new foreign borrowing and repayments, suggesting that the authorities sold a substantial amount of sterling on the foreign exchange markets.

The increase in reserves, which follows a $166m rise in April, was rather more than the City had expected.

Deadline for Fitch Lovell takeover bid extended

By Our Financial Staff

The chances of a bid for Fitch Lovell from Linfood receded last night.

Under the rules of the City Panel on Takeovers and Mergers, Linfood had to make an offer within three weeks of gaining clearance for the bid from the Monopolies Commission. This deadline expired at midnight last night.

But yesterday afternoon it appeared that Linfood had persuaded the panel to extend the deadline, and was supported in its application for an extension by the potential victim, Fitch Lovell.

The panel agreed to the extension rather than risk being embarrassed by insisting that its rules were obeyed. Had it pressed Linfood to make an offer or withdraw, Linfood could have legitimately made a bid at a derisory level – say, 10p, just to keep its options open.

Fitch Lovell is believed to have supported the plan for the deadline to be extended, because it did not want Linfood to be provoked into making a new bid, and it wanted to gain more time in which to complete the sale of the Key Markets supermarkets chain, which is the subject of an auction between Linfood and Safeway, the American group.

Sharp rise in company liquidity

By Our Economics Correspondent

British companies are emerging from the recession and are in the most comfortable financial position since the economic downturn began, a new official survey suggests.

Company liquidity improved sharply in the first quarter of this year to its best level since mid-1979, with the bulk of the improvement coming in the hard-pressed manufacturing sector.

Industry needs high levels of liquidity – easily realisable short-term assets – in a recovery to finance the costs of higher production, including extra stocks, overtime payments and so on. The latest improvement, which is likely to reflect higher profits in the first quarter, is thus a good omen.

The Department of Industry survey of 200 of Britain's biggest companies, published in *British Business* today, shows tht the liquidity ratio (total current assets as a percentage of total current liabilities) rose to 101 in the first quarter of 1983 from 81 in the last quarter of 1982.

Marathon consortium to secure 5,000 oil jobs

£1,700m investment for N Sea

By John Lawless

A consortium led by Marathon Oil yesterday committed itself to spending up to £1.7bn on its second North Sea field – in a move that will bring substantial orders for UK companies and secure 5,000 much-needed oil industry jobs.

The opening up of North Brae, located in block 16/7A, about 155 miles off Scotland's north-east coast, will see equipment being installed in 1987.

The start-up of production the following year will herald a new era in the North Sea production.

North Brae's 200 million barrels of reserves represent the first gas condensate field. More such fields will come into production later. The extremely light crude oil will be pumped to the platform using the gas with which it is mixed - with the gas being pumped straight back into the seated wells. "It will effectively be put back into storage, not to be tapped for nine years," a Marathon spokesman said yesterday. "The process involves having a lot more processing and production facilities on the platform itself."

That makes the investment in equipment that much more significant than on a conventional field. Marathon expects to spend at least 70 per cent of its development funds on equipment made in the UK.

It has allowed £1bn as the minimum capital cost, but expects inflation over-runs to bite into a contingency sum of £500m.

Another £200m has been allocated for the eventually-required gas recovery facilities, which should come on stream in 1995.

Marathon has a 38 per cent stake in the consortium which has developed the adjoining South Brae field. It is due to go into production in late July, from reserves of 300 million barrels.

● Placid Oil Co (UK) and Occidental Petroleum (Caledonia) announced yesterday that agreement has been reached for a group of companies headed by Occidental to jointly work or "farm in" Placid's interest in Block 16-12A in the United Kingdom sector of the North Sea.

City Comment

Faulty logic on M1

Markets claim sophistication but often practise simplification. The present Wall Street obsession with weekly M1 figures, hardly a reliable aggregate, has almost convinced everybody that American interest rates and the dollar must rise. But the logic is accepted uncritically.

First, is the notion that a faster rising M1 necessarily means more inflation. Vulgar monetarism of this kind is justly treated with widespread scepticism these days.

Part of the Federal Reserve's problem is that it knows the situation is very complicated while the markets insist on treating it as very simple.

The second assumption is that even if the money supply is growing faster than can be accommodated by the expansion of the economy, and even if that alone will aggrevate inflation, the only solution is to raise interest rates.

On the contrary, monetarist logic allows that a money supply swelling faster than underlying economic activity can be cut without harming growth and therefore without recourse to interest rates measures. It is almost as though the markets are wishing for higher interest rates, the very thing they do not want.

Indeed, if the market fog is lifted for a moment, one can respectably argue that the dollar should depreciate.

The American trade deficit will be huge again this year and the fundamentals for the yen and deutsche mark, although perhaps not for sterling, look sound in the second half of the year.

It would be in the spirit of Williamsburg for Wall Street to look at the American economy as a whole and not as a muddle of monetary movements.

INVESTORS' NOTEBOOK ● edited by Sandy McLachlan

Haat regains its premium rating

Habitat Moth
Year to 31.3.83
Pretax profit £22.95r
Stated earnings 13.5
Turnover £309.7m (£
Net annualised divide
Share price 280p u
2.7%

HABITAT MOTHERCARE SHARE PRICE

DATASTREAM

RELATIVE TO FT/A ALL SHARE INDEX

JUN JUL AUG SEP OCT NOV DEC JAN FEB MAR APR MAY

280 260 240 220 200 180 160 140

To recall the wid critisism that greet merger with Mot over a year ago doe a long memory. Bu which it sent Ha price perhaps do release of nine m from the group y shares rose 12p to 2.

Both the H Mothercare parts performed except during the perio appears to be d than because of between Habitat's ties and Motherc ment systems; flaunted as the m the marriage w fund managers w to back it in Janu

In order to ma meaningful, Habi lised figures to M treated the ye though Motherca the group for a On that basis, p 24 per cent ahea

Within that, been the outstan with trading pro ahead. That is reduced losses States and to a from the diff company was g before the merg

What is sig there as yet i that Mothercar to reflect the image that Sir Terence Conran, Habitat's chairman, has promised he can create. Even so, Mothercare's volume sales were 5 per cent up.

The last couple of months have seen a quickening of the pace the of revitalising the appearence of merchandise and the retail environment at Mothercare. So far, however, only six stores have been revamped out of the 40 that the group promises to have completed by September and the new merchandising policy is yet to be reflected in the shelves.

Though the City must wait until next Autumn to see whether it will all work, brokers are plainly more optimistic about the outcome that they once were. Habitat has regained the premium rating it had before the merger.

The original Habitat side of the group continues to go from strength to strength. Even stripping out the effect of newly-opened stores, its volume sales in Britain rose 14 per cent last year.

If that formula can be successfully applied to Mothercare, is the still nascent Habitat business in the States and to the newly-acquired Heals company, the City's new-found confidence will be more than justified.

UBM Group

Year to 28.2.83
Pretax profit £2.6m (£2m loss)
Stated earnings 2.2p (1.6p) (loss)
Turnover £306m (£260m)
Net in/final dividend 1.2p making 2.2p (2p)
Share price 93p up 1.5p Yield 3.3%
Dividend payable 15.7.83

UBM, Group, one of Britain's largest builders' merchants, has continuedthe dramatic turnround first indicated at the interim stage. Full year results to February 28 show that the group managed pre tax profits of £2.6m against the £2m loss recorded in the previous year.

Much of the improvement can be traced back to the reorganization of UBM's businesses under the guidance of Mr Roger Pinnington, who took over as chief executive early last year.

The new slimline structure of 6,000 employees has 2,000 fewer staff than two years ago. During the last 12 months 500 jobs disappeared as loss-making depots were closed at Croydon and Barkingside. The full benefits also accrued from the closure of the Derby and Bradford depots, which were charged to the previos year's accounts.

This time round, UBM has shown extraordinary profits of £1m from property sales compared with the heavy £3.3m provision for closures and redundancies the previous year. However, the most startling effect of the newly efficient organization has been on the level of borrowings, which are down from a 1982 peak of £30m to £13m today (about 22 per cent of shareholders' funds).

The new confidence in the group's future is shown by the payment of an improved final dividend of 1.2p per share, making 2.2p for the year against 2p last time. Significantly, last year's dividend was paid from reserves. This time the improved dividend leaves £1m to be carried into reserves.

Looking to the future, UBM's traditional builders' merchants business needs little more tha a modest improvement in activity to achieve a gallop in profits. Last year the division made trading profits of £3.1m after losses of £1.1m the previous year from depots. But the real upturn will come from an increase in housebuilding and peripheral black economy-type merchanting sales.

The glass business is also in much better shape, with prospects of increased profits as more volume is pumped through the group's warehouses. However there is still a question mark over the motor sales business, which made a lower contribution of £660,000 compared with £970,000. Here an increase in commercial vehicle sales will make most difference to performance.

At 93p the shares yield 3.3 per cent. But with the balance sheet in healthy shape again the new management team is hungry for further profits growth, probably from diversification into a sector with greater growth prospects than the existing businesses. Buy on expectations.

After the recent revelations about Lloyds Bank International taking a more cautious line towards international lending, Bank fur Gemeinwirtschaft *has now revealed that it has been chopping back its exposure to some problem countries. BFG has cut back on loans to Yugoslavia, East Germany and Romania and the parent's balance sheet is actually down to 42.8bn Deutsche marks (16.8bn) at the end of April, compared with DM44.8bn at end-1982.*

Still, profitability is improving. Although bad-debt provisions are expected to remain high, parent company operating profits before trading results nearly tripled in the first quarter of 1983 from DM 44m to DM 121m, largely due to a widening of interest margins.

Electronic Rentals trims dividend

By Our Financial Staff

Electronic Rentals has cut its dividend by a quarter for the year to the end of March. This comes after a drop in pretax profits to £12.1m from £15.6m the previous year, after taking into account losses of £2.4m on discontinued camping and leisure activities.

Colour television rental in Britain remains a problem with a decline in the number of subscribers after the ending of the hire purchase and rental regulations last July.

Paradoxically, success in placing video recorders and the need to replace older television sets on rental has led to a substantial increase in the deprecation charge – up by £10.4m to just under £60m.

The decline in the number of colour television rentals was highlighted in the group's interim statement and has continued.

Income from video recorders made up for the loss of income from colour television sets to the extent that rental income overall rose by 5 per cent in Britain, but marketing videos in the face of heavy competition has been expensive.

The full cost of closing the camping and leisure activity was £7.3m, and the deduction of this from the group's reserves was a significant factor in the group's decision to cut the dividend.

The total dividend for the financial year is 4.617p gross, against the 6.1567p in 1981/82.

The company says that a number of adverse factors remain. "Many of the measures taken to improve performance in the high street will of course detract from short term results."

Nevertheless, the company believes that the new, lower, dividend level can be maintained. It also hopes that it will benefit from cable television developments.

AEstpones payout afoverseas loss

By Our Financial Staff

AE, the ng group suffered hea its overseas activitie ix months to end Marc extent that it has postp dividend announceme the year's results are and "the prospects f next year clearer."

The mai m for AE, which mad s of £2.3m before tax red with a profit of £ n the same period last as been the performanc sterling and overseas su es.

The wea f sterling has inflated sal 7.4m, but has increased s borrowings by £5.4m, by £4.5m and stocks by £

A furth 3m has been provided extraordinary item on of the South African subsidiary, AE Motor Spares, which was completed last month. It incurred a pretax loss of £2.8m in the half year, half of which was provided for in the 1982 accounts.

Mr John Collyear, chairman, reports that trading conditions were particularly difficult in the three months to December 31 1982. The group's British activities made a pretax profit after redundancy and related costs in the half year, but this was marred by overseas difficulties.

The group expects to increase market share by higher productivity and improved products, but the chairman gave a warning "not to expect any real change to the economic climate."

Investment sale boosts Harrisons dividend

By Victor Felstead

Harrisons & Crosfield
Year to 31.12.82
Pretax profit, £44.46m (£47.23m).
Stated earnings, 44.3p (37.1p).
Turonver, £912m (£814m).
Net total dividend, 31.0p (28.0p).

With net earnings being boosted by the sale of an investment, London-based Harrisons and Brosfield is lifting its total dividend, on a gross basis, from 40p to 44.29p a share.

In 1982, total poerating profit rose from £52.85m to £54.46m, with associated companies contributing £4.62m – slighly higher than 1981's £4.44m Thus, group profit before interest and tax has risen from £57.29m to £59.09m, but interest payable has jumped from £10.06 to £14.62m.

The result is that group pretax profits have slipped from £47.23m to £44.46m. However, the tax charge is lower this time, minority interests are down, and with extraordinary items of £73.9m – against nil in 1981 – to be added in, profit attributable to ordinary shareholders has more than trebled from £30.14m to £107.84m.

Earnings per ordinary share are up from 37.1p top 44.3p. The extraordinary items for 1982 are the surplus on part realization of Harrisons' investment in Harrisons Malaysian Estates and associated transactions. The board reports that 1983 has started well.

● **BOARD HANDSHAKE:** A director received £25,000 for loss of office last year, the House of Fraser report and accounts reveals. Two directors left during the period – Sir Hugh Fraser, and Mr Philip Hawley.

Granville & Co Limited.

(Formerly M. J. H. Nightingale & Co. Limited)
27/28 Lovat Lane, London EC3R 8EB Telephone 01-621 1212

The Over-the-Counter Market

1982/83 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div(p)	Yld %	P/E Actual	P/E Fully Taxed
142	120	Ass Brit Ind Ord	135	–	6.4	4.7	7.9	10.3
158	117	Ass Brit Ind CULS	152	–	10.0	6.6	–	–
74	57	Airsprung Group	65	–	6.1	9.4	18.6	18.6
46	26	Armitage & Rhodes	26	–	4.3	16.5	2.9	5.1
348	197	Bardon Hill	348	+3	11.4	3.3	14.6	18.4
150	100	CCL 11.0% Conv Pref	150	+1	15.7	10.4	–	–
270	210	Cindico Group	212	–	17.6	8.3	–	–
86	45	Deborah Services	45	–	6.0	13.3	3.0	8.0
97½	77	Frank Horsell	96	–	–	–	8.0	8.6
96	75½	Frank Horsell Pr Ord 87	94½	–	8.7	9.2	10.5	11.3
83	61	Frederick Parker	62	–	7.1	11.5	3.9	6.2
55	34	George Blair	34	–	–	–	5.9	12.3
100	74	Ind Prec Castings	75	–	7.3	9.7	9.6	12.1
178	100	Isis Conv Pref	178	+1	15.7	8.8	–	–
162	94	Jackson Group	162	+2	9.0	5.5	4.2	8.3
227	111	James Burrough	227	–	9.6	4.2	16.6	18.5
260	148	Robert Jenkins	151	–	20.0	13.2	1.7	24.0
83	54	Scruttons "A"	67	–	5.7	8.5	8.7	10.5
167	110	Torday & Carlisle	112	–	11.4	10.1	5.0	8.6
29	21	Unilock Holdings	26	–	0.46	1.8	–	–
85	64	Walter Alexander	68	–	6.4	9.4	4.9	7.0
265	214	W. S. Yeates	264	–1	17.1	6.5	4.1	8.4

Prices now available on Prestel, page 48146

COMMODITIES

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE

Prices in pounds per metric ton
Silver in pence per troy ounce

	Y'day's Close
High grade copper	–
Cash	1074–75
Three months	1098–99.00
Standard cath (copper)	–
Cash	1032–34.00
Three months	1062–64.00
Tin: cash	8365–66
Three months	8835–40
Lead: cash	263–63.50
Three months	273.50–74.00
Zinc: cash	445–46.00
Three months	460–60.50
Silver: cash	776–77.0
Three months	795.5–95.8
Aluminium: cash	930–31.00
Three months	958–58.50
Nickel: cash	3150–60
Three months	3240–45

L.M.E. TURNOVER
Copper (higher grade): 10,350 tonnes: Standard cathodes: nil tonnes: Tin (standard): 550 tonnes: Lead: 2,100 tonnes: Zinc: 6,050 tonnes: Silver: 32 lots of 10,000 ozs. each: Aluminium: 3,950 tonnes: Nickel: 324 tonnes.

LONDON COMMODITY PRICES

Rubber in £s per tonne;
Coffee, cocoa, sugar and soyabean meal in pounds per metric ton;
Wool in N.Z. cents per kilo;

RUBBER	Y'day's Close
Jly	735–736
Aug	727–728
July/Sept	727–728
Oct/Dec	744–745
Jan/Mch	761–763
Apl/Jne	781–783
Jly/Sep	798–801
Oct/Dec	815–817
Jan/Mch	833–834

Sales: Two lots at five tonnes each, and 38 lots at 15 tonnes each.

COFFEE	Y'day's Close
Jly	1568–1570
Sep	1557–1560
Nov	1545–1547
Jan	1527–1530
Mch	1505–1508
May	1490–1500
Jly	1485–1495

Sales: 4,815 lots, including 15 options.

COCOA	Y'day's Close
Jly	1398–1400
Sep	1416–1417
Dec	1431–1433
Mch	1437–1440
May	1445–1460
Jly	1456–1475
Sep	1465–1495

Sales: 3,846 lots, including three options. ICCO prices: daily (June 1), 97.24c. indicator price (June 2), 5-day average, 100.17c. (U.S. cents per lb).

SUGAR (No 4 contract)	Y'day's Close
Aug	172.50-172.75
Oct	179.60-179.00
Dec	183.00-183.50
March	191.00-192.00
May	194.00-195.00

Sales: 11,215 lots.
The London daily "raws" price was £16.50 lower yesterday, at £172.00 per tonne, while the "whites" price was £11.00 down at £200.00. I.S. A: prices (June 1): daily, 10.96c. 15-day average, 9.97c (US cents per lb).

WOOL	Y'day's Close
Aug	445-448
Oct	440-447
Dec	440-447
Jan	440-446
March	446-452
May	455-460
Aug	466-470
Oct	467-475
Dec	470-482

Sales: 68 lots, including five kerbs.

SOYABEAN MEAL	Y'day's Close
June	139.50-139.70
Aug	137.70-138.30
Oct	139.90-140.20
Dec	144.90-145.00
Feb	148.50-149.00
April	149.20-150.30
June	149.20-152.00

Sales: 198 lots, including two options.

GRAIN	Barley	wheat
July	–	£132.65
Sept	£109.80	£116.35
Nov	£116.45	£119.00
Jan	£116.45	£122.25
March	£119.25	£125.25
May	£122.45	£128.35
	Sales: 374 lots	Sales: 76 lots.

LONDON GOLD FUTURES	Y'day's Close
June	$413.50-$415.40
July	$417.00-$418.00
Aug	$418.50-$419.70
Sept	$422.60-$423.60
Oct	$426.00-$427.00
Nov	$429.50-$430.50
Dec	$433.30-$434.00

Sales: 413 lots.

INTERNATIONAL PETROLEUM EXCHANGE	Y'day's Close
June	239.75-240.00
July	239.00-239.25
Aug	240.25-240.50
Sep	242.50-242.75
Oct	244.75-245.00
Nov	247.00-247.50
Dec	250.00-250.50
Jan	252.00-253.50
Feb	250.50-260.00

Sales: 1,085 lots of 100 tonnes each.

هكذا من الأصل

صكنا من الاجل

Electronic Rentals trims dividend

Ban on foreign banking attacked

From Tony Duboudin, Melbourne

The Federal Opposition has attacked the Labor Government's decision not to go ahead with the former Government's programme to allow foreign trading banks to set up in Australia. But the reaction of Australian bankers has been cautious.

The decision was announced by Mr Paul Keating, the Federal Treasurer as part of the Government's plan to reexamine the report on Australian financial institutions by the late Sir Keith Campbell.

The Opposition branded the Government's decision "a complete waste of time and money". Mr John Howard, the shadow treasurer, said that all the facts of the financial system were available following the Campbell committee's exhaustive three-year inquiry and that a new inquiry must fuel suspicion that the traditional hostility of the Labor Party to a more competitive financial system has reasserted itself.

However, Mr Ron Cameron, director of the Australian Bankers Association research directorate, said that the new inquiry could imply that the Government was preparing to modify its previous outright rejection of some of the Campbell recommendations. The key Campbell recommendation was for the deregulation of interest rates.

There have been a number of bank mergers in the past couple of years as the Australian system prepared itself for what it believed would be an influx of foreign competition.

Mr Keating said that the reexamination of the Campbell report would take account of Labor's social and economic policies and that one of the specific issues to be examined was the possible enactment of a part of the Financial Corporations Act which would give the Government power to regulate financial corporations on their assets, lending policies and interest rates.

The power could be used to ensure the Labor Government's social objective of an adequate supply of housing finance at reasonable interest rates.

Lombard North Central set for record profits

By Peter Wilson-Smith, Banking Correspondent

Lombard North Central, Nat West's finance house subsidiary, is on course for record profits. Lower funding costs and higher volume contributed to a 28 per cent rise in pretax profits to £29m in the six months to March 31. Mr Hugh Cubitt, chairman, said the second half should be at least as good providing inflation, interest rates and bad debts do not rise.

Lombard usually does more business and makes higher profits in the second half, which suggests profits of at least £60m for the year compared with £53.8m last time.

Lombard's results bear out recent indications of a modest revival in the economy. The volume of new business has risen by more than 20 per cent, with much of the growth coming from finance for small and medium-sized businesses.

Mr Ronald Barnes, chief executive, said there had been signs of some increase in demand for investment funds from this sector of the economy over the past eight months. However, the fastes growth has come in consumer finance. Helped by last year's relaxation of hire purchase controls, the subsidiaries providing car finance have done well. Lombard Tricity, which provides finance for electrical and consumer goods, has also seen a boom in new business. The growth of bad debts in beginning to level off. Provisions were up by more than the on fifth growth in new business the first half and were high than in the second half of la year. But Mr Barnes said there were already signs of a levellin off in the second of 1982-83.

Finance houses borrow heavily from banks and the money markets to fund their loans and the drop in interest rates has been a key factor in the rise in Lombard's profits.

Average funding costs were about 2½ per cent lower.

At the half year, the tax credit, which reflects the tax allowances accruing to finance houses from their leasing business, was unchanged at £30m. Attributable profits were ahead from £51.5m to £58.6m.

Japan's steel firms hit slump

From Richard Hanson, Tokyo

Japan's five integrated steel companies reported steep falls in sales and earnings for the year ending March 31, a reflection of the poor conditions which have sent Japanese steel production to its lowest level in more than a decade and forced suppliers of iron ore and of coal to accept large price cuts.

There are a few tentative signs of improvement on the horizon. But The companies began losing heavily in the second half of the year just ended, eroding profits run up during the first. For most, these losses will continue at least through the first six months of the present fiscal year.

Collectively, the five-Nippon Steel, Kawasaki, Nippon Kokan, Sumitomo Metal Industries and Kobe Steel-suffered a 76.7 per cent drop in the year's operating profit to 93,539m yen. Net profit slumped 28.9 per cent to 12,000m yen.

Sales were down 8.8 per cent to 7,859m yen which prompted the industry to cut production to the lowest level since before the first 1973 oil crisis.

Forecasts for the present year show a further erosion of profits and flat sales. Only Nippon Steel, the largest steel company in the world, says that it has already passed through the bottom of the recession.

The hardest hit companies are athose with the biggest involvement in seamless pipe production, used in oil and gas exploration. Demand, which propped up earnings in the early part of last year, collapsed after oil became plentiful and oil prices fell.

[COM]PANY NEWS [I]N BRIEF

[...]t (Contractors): The [...] for the current year, [...] July 31, 1983, pretax [...] not be less than [...] compared with the [...]ar's £1.47m. Turnover [...]t year is running a little [...]vel of last year. These [...] reflection of the highly [...] conditions which con[...] industry, Smart's board [...]m dividend held at 1.1p [...] final expected to be [...]t 2.85.

[...] Group [...]83 [...] £3.04m (£4.1m). [...]gs, 7.07p (10.51p). [...]9.52m (£67.5m). [...] 3.4p (3.4p).

[...]curities [...]1.3.83. [...] £720,000 (£702,000). [...]gs, 5.31p (5.94p). [...]05m (£8.23m). [...]0.65p (0.6p).

[...]national [...]1.3.83. [...]4.69m (£3.82m). [...]s, 13.0p(12.0p). [...]4m (£50.96m). [...]dend, 3.0p (2.5p).

[...]stment Co [...]08,000 (£423,000). [...]end 4.0p(4.0p).

C[...] Industries H[...]3 Pr[...]0,000 (£578,000). Tu[...]m (£23.96m). Ne[...]nd, 1.75p(1.75p).

Jam[...] Figures in Irish curr[...] 18 m[...] 12.82 compared with [...]12 months. Preta[...]m(£2.3m). State[...]47p)(12.79p). Turno[...](£76.37m).

WALL STREET

	June 1	May 31
AMF Inc	[illegible]	[illegible]
AMR	[illegible]	[illegible]
Allied Chem	[illegible]	[illegible]
Allied Stores	[illegible]	[illegible]
Allis Chalmers	[illegible]	[illegible]
Alcoa	[illegible]	[illegible]
Amax Inc	[illegible]	[illegible]
Amerada Hess	[illegible]	[illegible]
Am Brands	[illegible]	[illegible]
Am Broadcast	[illegible]	[illegible]
Am Can	[illegible]	[illegible]
Am Cyanamid	[illegible]	[illegible]
Am Elec Power	19	[illegible]
Am Home	[illegible]	[illegible]
Am Motors	[illegible]	[illegible]
Am Nat Res	[illegible]	[illegible]
Am Standard	[illegible]	[illegible]
Am Telephone	[illegible]	[illegible]
Armco Steel	[illegible]	19
Asarco	[illegible]	41
Ashland Oil	[illegible]	[illegible]
Atlntic Richfield	[illegible]	[illegible]
Avco	[illegible]	[illegible]
Avon Products	[illegible]	[illegible]
Bankers Tst NY	[illegible]	[illegible]
Bank of America	[illegible]	[illegible]
Bank of Boston	[illegible]	[illegible]
Bank of NY	[illegible]	[illegible]
Beatrice Foods	[illegible]	[illegible]
Bethlehem Steel	[illegible]	[illegible]
Boeing	[illegible]	[illegible]
Boise Cascade	[illegible]	[illegible]
Borden	[illegible]	[illegible]
Borg Warner	[illegible]	[illegible]
Bristol Myers	[illegible]	[illegible]
BP	[illegible]	[illegible]
Burlington Ind	[illegible]	[illegible]
Burlington Nthn	[illegible]	[illegible]
Burroughs	[illegible]	[illegible]
Campbell Soup	[illegible]	[illegible]
Canadian Pacific	[illegible]	[illegible]
Caterpillar	[illegible]	[illegible]
Celanese	[illegible]	[illegible]
Central Soya	15	15
Chase Manhat	[illegible]	[illegible]
Chem Bank NY	[illegible]	[illegible]
Chrysler	[illegible]	[illegible]
Citicorp	[illegible]	[illegible]
Clark Equip	[illegible]	[illegible]
Coca Cola	[illegible]	[illegible]
Colgate	[illegible]	[illegible]
CBS	[illegible]	[illegible]
Columbia Gas	[illegible]	[illegible]
Combustion Eng	[illegible]	[illegible]
Comwlth Edison	[illegible]	[illegible]
Cons Edison	[illegible]	[illegible]
Cons Foods	[illegible]	[illegible]
Cons Power	[illegible]	[illegible]
Continental Grp	[illegible]	[illegible]
Control Data	[illegible]	[illegible]
Corning Glass	[illegible]	[illegible]
CPC Intnl	[illegible]	[illegible]
Crane	[illegible]	[illegible]
Crocker Int	[illegible]	[illegible]
Crown Zeller	[illegible]	[illegible]
Dart & Kraft	[illegible]	[illegible]
Deere	[illegible]	[illegible]
Delta Air	[illegible]	[illegible]
Detroit Edison	[illegible]	[illegible]
Disney	[illegible]	[illegible]
Dow Chemical	[illegible]	[illegible]
Dresser Ind	[illegible]	[illegible]
Duke Power	[illegible]	[illegible]
Du Pont	[illegible]	[illegible]
Eastern Air	[illegible]	[illegible]
Eastman Kodak	[illegible]	[illegible]
Eaton Corp	[illegible]	[illegible]
El Paso Nat Gas	[illegible]	[illegible]
Esmark	[illegible]	[illegible]
Evans P. D.	[illegible]	[illegible]
Exxon Corp	[illegible]	[illegible]
Fed Dept Stores	[illegible]	[illegible]
Firestone	[illegible]	[illegible]
Fst Chicago	[illegible]	[illegible]
Fst Intrst Bncp	[illegible]	[illegible]
Fst Penn Corp	[illegible]	7
Ford	[illegible]	47
GAF Corp	[illegible]	[illegible]
GTE Corp	[illegible]	[illegible]
Gen Dynamics	[illegible]	[illegible]
Gen Electric	105	[illegible]
Gen Foods	[illegible]	[illegible]
Gen Mills	[illegible]	[illegible]
Gen Motors	[illegible]	[illegible]
Gen Pub Util NY	[illegible]	[illegible]
Gen Tire	[illegible]	[illegible]
Genesco	[illegible]	[illegible]
Georgia Pacific	[illegible]	30
Getty Oil	[illegible]	67
Gillette	[illegible]	[illegible]
Goodrich	40	[illegible]
Goodyear	33	33
Gould Inc	[illegible]	[illegible]
Grace	[illegible]	[illegible]
Gt Atlntc & Pacific	[illegible]	[illegible]
Greyhound	[illegible]	[illegible]
Grumman Corp	[illegible]	[illegible]
Gulf Oil	[illegible]	[illegible]
Gulf & West	[illegible]	[illegible]
Heinz H. J.	[illegible]	[illegible]
Hercules	[illegible]	[illegible]
Honeywell	[illegible]	[illegible]
IC Inds	[illegible]	[illegible]
Ingersoll	[illegible]	[illegible]
Inland Steel	[illegible]	[illegible]
IBM	[illegible]	111
Int Harvester	[illegible]	[illegible]
INCO	[illegible]	15
Int Paper	[illegible]	[illegible]
Int Tel Tel	[illegible]	[illegible]
Irving Bank	[illegible]	[illegible]
Jewel Co	49	[illegible]
Jim Walter	[illegible]	[illegible]
Johnson & John	[illegible]	[illegible]
Kaiser Alumin	[illegible]	[illegible]
Kerr McGee	[illegible]	[illegible]
Kimberly Clark	[illegible]	[illegible]
K Mart	[illegible]	[illegible]
Kroger	[illegible]	[illegible]
L.T.V. Corp	[illegible]	[illegible]
Litton	[illegible]	65
Lockheed	[illegible]	113
Lucky Stores	[illegible]	[illegible]
Manuf Hanover	[illegible]	[illegible]
Manville Cp	[illegible]	15
Mapco	[illegible]	[illegible]
Marine Midland	28	28
Martin Marietta	[illegible]	[illegible]
McDonnell	58	[illegible]
Mead	[illegible]	[illegible]
Merck	[illegible]	86
Minnesota Mng	[illegible]	[illegible]
Mobil Oil	[illegible]	[illegible]
Monsanto	[illegible]	[illegible]
Morgan J. P.	[illegible]	77
Motorola	[illegible]	114
NCR Corp	[illegible]	118
NL Industries	[illegible]	[illegible]
Nabisco	[illegible]	[illegible]
Nat Distillers	[illegible]	[illegible]
Nat Med Ent	[illegible]	[illegible]
Nat Steel	[illegible]	[illegible]
Norfolk South	[illegible]	[illegible]
NW Bancorp	[illegible]	[illegible]
Norton Simon	[illegible]	[illegible]
Occidental Pet	[illegible]	[illegible]
Ogden	[illegible]	[illegible]
Olin Corp	[illegible]	31
Owens-Illinois	[illegible]	[illegible]
Pacific Gas Elec	[illegible]	[illegible]
Pan Am	[illegible]	[illegible]
Penney J. C.	[illegible]	[illegible]
Pennzoil	[illegible]	[illegible]
Pepsico	[illegible]	[illegible]
Pfizer	[illegible]	[illegible]
Phelps Dodge	[illegible]	[illegible]
Philip Morris	58	[illegible]
Phillips Petrol	34	[illegible]
Polaroid	[illegible]	[illegible]
PPG Ind	[illegible]	[illegible]
Procter Gamble	[illegible]	[illegible]
Pub Ser El & Gas	[illegible]	[illegible]
Raytheon	[illegible]	52
RCA Corp	[illegible]	[illegible]
Republic Steel	25	[illegible]
Reynolds Ind	[illegible]	[illegible]
Reynolds Metal	[illegible]	[illegible]
Rockwell Int	[illegible]	[illegible]
Royal Dutch	[illegible]	[illegible]
Safeways	[illegible]	27
St Regis Paper	[illegible]	[illegible]
Santa Fe Ind	[illegible]	[illegible]
SCM	[illegible]	[illegible]
Schlumberger	[illegible]	[illegible]
Scott Paper	[illegible]	[illegible]
Seagram	[illegible]	[illegible]
Sears Roebuck	[illegible]	[illegible]
Shell Oil	33	[illegible]
Shell Trans	31	[illegible]
Signal Co	31	[illegible]
Singer	[illegible]	[illegible]
Sony	[illegible]	[illegible]
Sth Cal Edison	[illegible]	[illegible]
Southern Pacific	[illegible]	65
Sperry Corp	[illegible]	[illegible]
Std Oil California	[illegible]	[illegible]
Std Oil Indiana	[illegible]	[illegible]
Std Oil Ohio	47	[illegible]
Sterling Drug	[illegible]	[illegible]
Stevens J. P.	[illegible]	[illegible]
Sun Comp	[illegible]	[illegible]
Teledyne	[illegible]	151
Tenneco	[illegible]	[illegible]
Texaco	[illegible]	35
Texas East Corp	[illegible]	[illegible]
Texas Inst	[illegible]	[illegible]
Texas Utilities	[illegible]	[illegible]
Textron	[illegible]	29
TWA	[illegible]	[illegible]
Travelers Corp	[illegible]	[illegible]
TRW Inc	[illegible]	[illegible]
UAL Inc	[illegible]	[illegible]
Union Carbide	[illegible]	[illegible]
Union Oil Calif	34	[illegible]
Un Pacific Corp	[illegible]	13
Uniroyal	[illegible]	[illegible]
United Brands	[illegible]	[illegible]
US Industries	[illegible]	[illegible]
US Steel	[illegible]	[illegible]
Utd Technol	[illegible]	[illegible]
Wachovia	[illegible]	[illegible]
Warner Comms	[illegible]	[illegible]
Warner Lambert	[illegible]	[illegible]
Wells Fargo	[illegible]	[illegible]
Westinghse Elec	[illegible]	[illegible]
Weyerhauser	[illegible]	[illegible]
Whirlpool	[illegible]	[illegible]
Woolworth	[illegible]	[illegible]
Xerox Corp	[illegible]	[illegible]
Zenith	[illegible]	[illegible]
Canadian Prices		
Abitibi	24	[illegible]
Alcan Alumin	[illegible]	[illegible]
Algoma Steel	[illegible]	[illegible]
Bell Telephone	[illegible]	[illegible]
Cominco	[illegible]	[illegible]
Cons Bathurst	[illegible]	23
Gulf Oil	[illegible]	[illegible]
Hawker/Sid Can	[illegible]	21
Hudson Bay Mng	[illegible]	[illegible]
Imasco	[illegible]	[illegible]
Imperial Oil	[illegible]	[illegible]
Int Pipe	28	[illegible]
Mass.-Ferguson	[illegible]	[illegible]
Royal Trust	[illegible]	27
Seagram	[illegible]	[illegible]
Steel Co	[illegible]	[illegible]
Thomson N 'A'	37	[illegible]
Walker Hiram	[illegible]	[illegible]
WCT	[illegible]	[illegible]

• Ex div. a Asked. c Ex distribution. h Bid. k Market closed. n New issue. p Stock split. t Traded. y Unquoted.

RECENT ISSUES

	Closing Price
Adam Leisure 10p Ord (88a)	98
Bensons Crisps 10p Ord (68a)	82
Castle (GB) 25p Ord (80a)	77
Chemical Methods Ass NPV (115a)	100–5
Godwin Warren 25p Ord (57a)	66
Gould Laurence 25p Ord (120a)	118
Lorin Electronics 20p Ord (80a)	115
MMT Computing 5p Ord (60a)	73
Mellerware 10p Ord (70a)	78
Micro Focus 10p Ord (7a)	328–7
Microlease 10p Ord (94a)	148
Miss World 10p Ord (60a)	113–2
Mnemos 10p Ord (65a)	54–4
Murray Electronics 25p Ord	97
Octopus Publishing 20p Ord	373
Securiguard 5p Ord (134a)	128
Spring Ram 10p Ord (105a)	143–+2
Strikes Rests 10p Ord (47a)	65
Stainless Metal 25p Ord (120a)	98

Issue price in parentheses a Unlisted Securities. * by tender.

BRITISH FUNDS

1982/83 High	Low	Stock			Price	Ch'ge	Int. only Yield	Gross Red. Yield
SHORTS								
100¾	92⅞	Treas	9½%	1983	99⁹⁄₁₆	..	9.371	11.156
104⅝	98⅞	Exch	13¾%	1983	101⁷⁄₁₆	..	13.309	10.078
101½	91¾	Exch	10%	1983	99⅞	• ..	10.013	10.245
99	87¾	Fund	5½%	1982-84	97⅛	..	5.663	10.416
103⅝	91⅞	Exch	11¼%	1984	100⅝	..	11.180	10.269
107¼	96½	Exch	14%	1984	103⅝	..	13.55	10.373
95¾	81¾	Exch	3%	1984	95⅛	•–⅟₁₆	3.154	7.979

MARKET REPORT • by Andrew Cornelius

[B]eecham depresses index

[ACCO]UNT DAY : Dealings began, May 23. Dealings end, June 3. Contango Day, June 6. Settlement Day, June 13.

Disappointing final figu[res] from Beecham Group hel[ped] drag the FT index below [700] yesterday after a promis[ing] start to trading. At 10am [the] index was up by 1.4 points [at] 706.0 but the news t[hat] Beecham had reported pre[tax] profits of £237m for 1[98?] against forecasts of £240m [was] enough to send the mar[ket] spiralling downwards. At [the] close the index was 5.9 poi[nts] off at 698.7.

Beecham's share pr[ice] dropped 28p to 380p at [the] close, with Fisons falling by [?] to 638p, and Glaxo Holdi[ngs] down by 7p to 835p at [one] stage, but later rallying [to] finish 3p up at 845p.

Gilts trimmed early gains [of] ½ a point to ⅜ as sterl[ing] slipped towards the close [of] trading, leaving the FT G[ilts] index up by 0.38 points [at] 82.55.

Engineers were also a [weak] market with TI leading [the] sector down after a long lin[e of] shares were put on offer. [TI] shares were down by 6[p to] 146p as the market dige[sted] the stock, while Ha[wker] Siddeley came beck 8p to [...] and profit-taking [clipped] 13p from Plessey, [which ca]me down to 681p.

[Wh]ere a strong market [t]he fall in BP's first [quarter] pretax profits from [...] to £74m. An optimistic [stateme]nt about prospects [by S]ir Peter Walters, the BP chairman, was enough to curb early selling of the company's shares and they closed unchanged at 386p.

Shell added 4p to 526p and Burmah Oil hardened ahead of today's annual meeting to close 3p ahead at 161p.

Tricentrol also came back to close up 2p at 222p with the market still uncertain about the prospects of a takeover bid being launched for the company.

Dome Petroleum slipped again by 20p to 290p despite a statement from Trafalgar House that it would not be buying any more P & O shares in the market for the time being. Trafalgar which holds 4.9 per cent of the P & O share capital closed with its shares up 1p at 167p.

The market's other big bid story remained in the headlines with BTR announcing the purchase of 3.7 million more Tilling shares at the bid price of 225p. This latest purchase brings BTR's stake in Tilling to 25.3 per cent and means that BTR can block any moves by Tilling to demerge its businesses.

Warren [?] Control, the car park-barrie[r manufac]turer, whose shares [made a] glittering debut to the [USM th]is week, is tipped to [make pr]etax profits of £310,000 [...], against £201,000 last [year by] de Zoete & Bevan. [The] company has a nil [...] after the USM placing [but str]ong growth prospects. [The sh]ares are trading 10p [above] the 57p placing price.

In a review of the metals and metal-forming sector published yesterday, Quilter Goodison recommends IMI and McKechnie as immediate buys. The businesses are now centred around new activities like aerospace and building products, and the shares offer an attractive yield, Quilter says. Yesterday McKechnie shares held firm at 110p while IMI shares were down 1p at 55p.

Associated Newspapers shares were boosted by renewed speculation that the company would make significant gains from a public quotation of the Reuters news agency. The shares finished 13 points up at 306p, while Fleet Holdings also showed a 2p gain to close at 77p.

Air Call, the radio telephones company, continued the rise it enjoyed after yesterday's announcement that it had won the first British rights to provide mobile phone services. At the close the shares were up by 15p at 333p.

House of Fraser held firm at 202p on news that it plans to sell or redevelop its non-stores properties.

Norton Opax, the lottery tickets company which is bidding for the J Waddington Monopoly games group, yesterday bought 100,000 Waddington shares in the market to raise its holding to 4.7 per cent. The Waddington price remained unmoved at 172p.

A large buyer of British Car Auctions shares also emerged to send the share price up 10p to close at 200p.

1982/83 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
86	43	Ass Paper	83	• ..			
75	54	Atkins Bros	64	..			
160	77	Attwoods PLC	142	..			
40	25	Ault & Wiborg	29	..			
59	30	Automotive Pd	37	–1			
125	67	Avon Rubber	117	..			
244	178	Hall M.	242	• –2	8.8	3.6	11.7
132	83	Halma PLC	111	..	2.3	2.0	21.6
12	8¼	Hampson Ind	12	..	1.1b	8.9	12.2
61	21	Hanimex Corp	33	..	..e	..	4.6
163	37	Hanover Inv	135	..	2.6	2.0	50.2
201	91½	Hanson Trust	191	–1	5.7	3.0	15.2
59	44	Hargreaves Grp	86	..	5.4	6.2	9.6
338	145½	Harris Q'nsway	336	..	8.1	2.4	21.1
787	437	Harrison Cros	650	+50	40.0	6.2	18.4
103	52	Hartwells Grp	91	• ..	6.3	6.9	6.4
408	290	Hawker Sidd	364	• –8	14.0	3.8	9.4
35	16	Hawkins & T'son	30	–½	1.4e	4.8	..
210	126	Haynes	188	..	13.9	7.4	18.5
85	33	Mitchell Cotts	33½	..	5.2	15.4	9.3
56	17	Moben Grp	44	..	0.3	0.6	12.6
30	17	Modern Eng	28	..	..	..	..
183	119	Molins	132	–1	11.3	8.6	5.6
132	54	Monk A.	126	..	5.7	4.5	5.1
7	4	Montecatini	6	..	..	..	..
50	18	Montfort Knit	22	..	..	..	..
110½	66	More O'Ferrall	81	• –2	4.2	5.2	13.8
129	76	Morgan Cruc	113	+2	10.7	9.3	31.9
248	175½	Mowlem J.	234	–4	15.0b	6.4	8.2
195	110	Muirhead	148	–1	5.7	3.9	13.3
145½	97	NSS News	110	• –2	4.3b	3.9	9.9
25¾	17¼	Nabisco	£24	• +¼	148	6.2	..
82	49	Stakis PLC	80	–1	2.5b	3.1	14.8
278	143½	Standard Tel	272	–2	8.6	3.2	21.1
74	37	Stanley A.-G.	42	..	..	..	35.0
370	208	Steel Bros	370	• ..	16.4	4.4	8.6
222	137	Steetley Co	196	h –1	10.0b	5.1	30.5
114	35	Steinberg	101	–1	0.0e	..	..
40	20	Streeters	31	..	..	..	11.3
59	21	Strong & Fisher	38	..	2.4	6.3	..
176	91	Sunlight Serv	163	+7	6.0b	3.7	15.5
45	17	Sutcliffe S'man	22	..	..e	..	..
71	23	Suter Elec	42	..	2.5	6.0	..
137½	62	Swire Pacific 'A'	107½	+1½	..	..	..
73	35½	Marley PLC	62½	–½	3.6	5.7	26.6
51	29	Marling Ind	37½	–½	1.5	4.1	4.8
50	32	Marshall T Lox	34	..	..	..	..
48	23	Do A	31	..	..	..	..
156	78	Marshalls Hfx	156	..	7.1	4.6	12.7
266	125	Martin News	185	–3	8.3	4.5	8.2
288	213	Martonair	263	..	11.4	4.3	15.7
164	90	Matthews B.	147	..	7.5	5.1	5.2
68	53	Medminster	55	+1	5.9	10.7	9.9
388	215	Menzies J.	311	• ..	7.1	2.3	10.9
210	140	Metal Box	184	–4	16.5	9.0	11.5
48	33½	Metalrax	48	s ..	3.0	6.2	11.6
49¾	14	Mettoy	36	–2	..e	..	..
140	56	Meyer Int	130	–2	5.0b	3.8	..
68	28	Midland Ind	42	• ..	3.7	8.8	12.0
148	82	Milletts Leis	125	..	9.9	7.9	22.5
137	41	Mining Supplies	56	..	..e	..	..
453	328	Simon Eng	415	• +7	18.9	4.6	8.2
193	113	Sirdar	166	..	6.2	3.7	10.1
76	41	600 Group	65	..	7.5	11.5	11.0
423	249	Sketchley	401	–1	15.6	3.9	15.0
176	85¾	Smith & Neph	163	–3	5.3	3.3	19.0
294	149	Smith W. H. 'A'	236	–2	8.6	3.6	15.2
57	31	Do "B"	49	..	1.7	3.5	15.8
435	318	Smiths Ind	385	+4	15.7	4.1	10.8
85	44	Smurfit	82	..	5.3	6.4	7.3
49	24½	Snia Viscosa	40	..	..	..	..
35	14	Solicitors Law	32	–1	..	..	..
530	280	Sotheby P.B.	477	..	0.1	..	..
215	130½	Spirax-Sarco	192	..	7.1b	3.7	15.2
49	14	Staffs Potts	41	..	0.0	..	..
119	86	Stag Furniture	106	..	7.1	6.7	28.6

Sterling: Spot and Forward

	Market rates (day's range) June 2	Market rates (close) June 2	1 month	3 months
New York	$1.5870-1.5910	$1.5830-1.5840	0.14-0.09c prem	0.32-0.27c prem
Montreal	$1.9430-1.9560	$1.9460-1.9470	0.15-0.05c prem	0.35-0.35c prem
Amsterdam	4.50½-4.56½fl	4.51½-4.52½fl	1⅞-1⅝c prem	4⅞-4⅝c prem
Brussels	80.05-80.95f	80.22-80.32f	9c prem-1c disc	15-5c prem
Copenhagen	14.36-14.52k	14.39¾-14.40¾k	385-230ore prem	470-310ore prem
Dublin	1.2700-1.2825p	1.2705-1.2720p	39-55p disc	128-144p disc
Frankfurt	4.00¾-4.05¼m	4.01¾-4.02¾m	1⅞-1⅝pf prem	5¼-4⅞pf prem
Lisbon	159.25-161.25e	159.60-160.50e	380-1580c disc	605-2200c disc
Madrid	222.30-224.75p	222.65-222.85p	215-305c disc	710-800c disc
Milan	2379-2403lr	2384-2386lr	9½-12½lr disc	33½-37½lr disc
Oslo	11.33-11.42k	11.35¾-11.36¾k	280-405ore disc	875-1025ore disc
Paris	12.06-12.19f	12.08½-12.09½f	2¾-3¾c disc	11¼-13¼c disc
Stockholm	11.94-12.04k	11.97½-11.98½k	95-100ore disc	200-320ore disc
Tokyo	376-381y	377-378y	1.25-1.00y prem	3.55-3.25y prem
Vienna	28.20-28.55sch	28.25-28.30sch	15-13gro prem	41-37gro prem
Zurich	3.32-3.36f	3.32½-3.33½f	1¼-1⅛c prem	4⅛-4¼c prem

Effective exchange rate compared to 1975, was 86.8 down 0.6

Money Market Rates

Clearing Banks Base Rate 10%

Discount Mkt Loans%
Overnight: High 10 Low 5

Week Fixed: 10⅛-10

Treasury Bills (Dis%)

Buying		Selling	
2 months	9³¹⁄₃₂	2 months	9²⁷⁄₃₂
3 months	9⅞	3 months	9¾

Prime Bank Bills (Dis%) Trades (Dis%)

1 month	10¹⁄₃₂-10	1 month	10²²⁄₃₂
2 months	9¹⁵⁄₁₆-9²⁷⁄₃₂	2 months	10⁹⁄₁₆
3 months	9⅞-9²⁷⁄₃₂	3 months	10½
6 months	9²³⁄₃₂-9¹¹⁄₁₆	6 months	10¹¹⁄₃₂

Local Authority Bonds

1 month	10¾-10½	7 months	10½-10¼
2 months	10⅝-10½	8 months	10½-10¼
3 months	10⅝-10⅜	9 months	10⅜-10¼
4 months	10⅝-10⅜	10 months	10⅜-10¼
5 months	10⅝-10⅜	11 months	10⅜-10¼
6 months	10½-10¼	12 months	10½-10¼

Secondary Mkt. £CD Rates (%)

1 month	10⁵⁄₁₆-10¼	6 months	10³⁄₁₆-10⅛
3 months	10¼-10⅛	12 months	10⁵⁄₁₆-10⅛

Local Authority Market (%)

2 days	10¼-10⅛	3 months	10¼
7 days	10⅛	6 months	10¼
1 month	10¼	1 year	10½

Interbank Market (%)

Overnight: Open 10¼ Close 5

1 week	10⁵⁄₁₆-10³⁄₁₆	6 months	10½-10⅜
1 month	10½-10¼	9 months	10½-10⅜
3 months	10⁷⁄₁₆-10⁵⁄₁₆	12 months	10⅝-10½

First Class Finance Houses (Mkt. Rate%)

3 months 10⁷⁄₁₆ 6 months 10⅜

Finance House Base Rate 10½%

Other Markets

Australia	1.7910-1.8060
Bahrein	0.5970-0.6000
Finland	8.7220-8.7620
Greece	132.75-134.75
Hongkong	11.4736-11.5235
Iran	n.a.
Kuwait	0.4630-0.4680
Malaysia	3.6636-3.7036
Mexico	225.00-250.00
New Zealand	2.3800-2.4000
Saudi Arabia	5.4635-5.4935
Singapore	3.3250-3.3550
South Africa	1.7100-1.7280

Dollar Spot Rates

* Ireland	1.2445-1.2456
+ Canada	1.2282-1.2285
Netherlands	2.8500-2.8520
Belgium	50.70-50.75
Denmark	9.0850-9.1050
West Germany	2.5368-2.5378
Portugal	100.5-101.5
Spain	140.30-140.40
Italy	1505.00-1506.00
Norway	7.1700-7.1800
France	7.6340-7.6390
Sweden	7.5625-7.5725
Japan	237.95-238.10
Austria	17.8500-17.8600
Switzerland	2.0990-2.1000

* Ireland quoted in US currency.
+ Canada $1: US $0.8138-0.8141

Euro-$ Deposits

(%) calls, 8⅞-8⅝; seven days, 8¹⁵⁄₁₆-9³⁄₁₆; one month, 9⅛-9¼; three months, 9¼-9⅜; six months, 9½-9⅝.

Gold

Gold fixed: am, $411.50 (an ounce); pm, $412.50 close, $413.00.

Krugerrand* (per coin): $425-426.5 (£268.5-269.5).

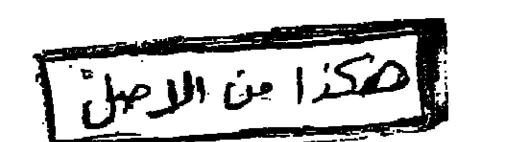
Sovereigns* (new): $97-98 (£61.25-62).

* Excludes VAT

UNLISTED SECURITIES

1982/83 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
410	180	Air Call	340	+22	8.0	2.4	16.2
280½	61	Berkeley Exp	91	..	..e	..	..
261	113	Cornell Hldgs	113	–5	..	..	..
125	88	Ecobric Ord	123	..	15.0	12.2	15.8
150	43¾	Good Relations	150	s +2	3.3	2.2	30.7
360	42	Merrydown Wine	330	–10	7.1	1.3	16.9
147	100	Metal Bulletin	133	..	8.6	6.4	12.6
163	142	Microlease	148	..	2.9b	1.9	..
213	106	Miles 33	136	..	2.9	1.5	20.1
42	26	New Court Nat	40	..	1.4	3.6	15.8
29	13	Owners Abroad	24	..	0.7	3.0	10.8
145	130	Securiguard	130	..	2.5b	1.9	28.1
18½	12	S.W.Resources	16	–1	0.8	4.9	..

• Ex dividend. a Ex all. b Forecast dividend. c Corrected price. e Interim payment passed. f Price at suspension. g Dividend and yield exclude a special payment. h Bid for company. k Pre-merger figures. n Forecast earnings. p Ex capital distribution. r Ex rights. s Ex scrip or share split. t Tax free. y Price adjusted for late dealings. .. No significant data.



APPOINTMENTS

Promotion for RTZ director

Mr J D Birkin, a director of RTZ and chairman and managing director of Tunnel Holdings, has become deputy chief executive of RTZ.

Mr Mike Blackburn has been made director and chief executive of Access.

Mr R D MacLeod has been appointed to the board of directors of the English Association Trust.

Mr David J Watkins Has been appointed a director of Kirland-Whittaker.

Sir John Hoskyns has joined the board of directors of McKechnie Brothers. Sir John is a director of International Computers, the Clerical Medical and General Life Assurance Society and AGB Research.

Mr Jasper Meadows Clutterbuck has been appointed a director of Buckley's Brewery. Mr Henry Whitbread has retired from the board.

Mr A M Bottomley, Mr L I Leigh and Mr J A H M MacKenzie have been made directors of Scottish, English and European Textiles.

Mr Jeff Benson has become a non-executive director of the 600 Group. Mr Ted Goodwin has been appointed a director. Mr Leslie Davies has retired as deputy managing director but will still remain a board member. Mr Percy Levy has retired as a director but will act as consultant on public relations matters.

Mr R B Frame, senior partner Murray and Company has retired but will remain a consultant. Mr M R N Evans has been appointed a senior partner.

Mr Peter Osborne has become a director of Christie's Contemporary Art.

Mr Ron Kirby has been made director of public affairs of the Engineering Council.

Mr Roger Young has been elected chairman of the City of London branch of the British Institute of Management. Mr Stan Mason has been elected vice-chairman and Mr Michael Orbell honorary treasurer.

Mr John G Silk has been appointed chairman of Hill and Smith Holdings. Mr R Skidmore has become managing director.

Mr Peter Mitchell has been appointed business manager for the industrial process group of Diversey.

John Lawless reports on Iran's sweater-wearing tycoons

The Ayatollah welcomes British businessmen back to Tehran

Ten years ago, seasoned exporters at Tehran's International Trade Fair broke the rule of a lifetime. They forced carrier bags full of expensively-produced, full-colour, Farsi-printed brochures on to the youths milling around their stands.

At any other event around the world, the youths would have been knuckle-rapped as useless catalogue collectors.

"We've discovered that a 16-year-old with two days growth of beard is likely to be the son of a multi-millionaire, would-be industrialist," one exporter said.

Today, the more awake members of the British export community have discovered something else: that the market which collapsed on them overnight three years ago is very much back on its feet again – and their sales are sprinting ahead.

Exports to Iran in the first three months of this year were £144m, a three-fold increase on the first quarter of 1982.

They have got a long way to go before getting anywhere near the real value of the £752m achieved in 1978 (a sales figure which slumped to £232m in 1979 after the Shah's departure).

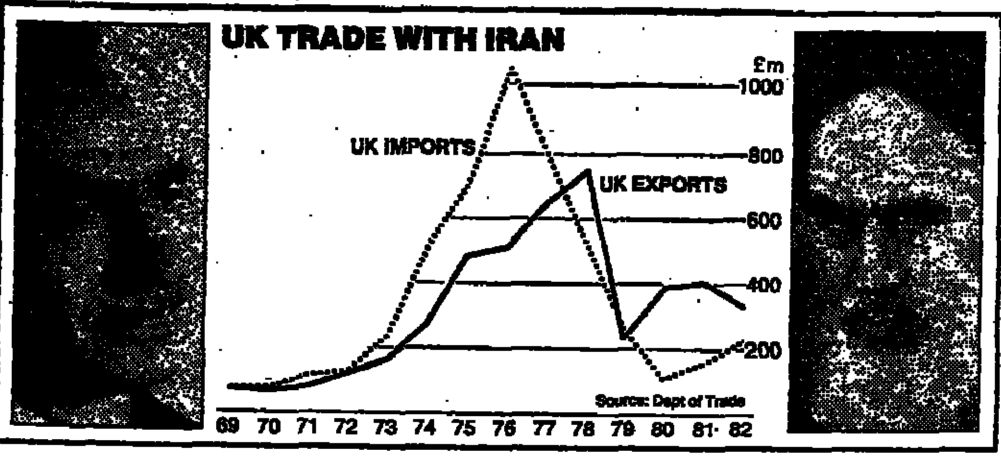
But every signal suggests that Iran could be the surprise boom market for British exporters in the next two years – just as the Bonanza spot of the past two years, its war-opponents Iraq, seems to be heading into decline.

Talbot has just added 80 workers to the 1,400 employed at Stoke-on-Trent, where 1,100 are directly engaged in building Hillman Hunter car kits for Iran. This year will see shipments approaching record levels of 100,000, under a contract worth £150 per annum.

Two United Kingdom trade missions have been in Iran this year, the first since the Ayatollah Khomeini came to power, and both were delighted with the warmth of their reception.

One from the Birmingham Chamber of Industry, which was over-subscribed within two days of being announced (an unheard of event), returned on Tuesday.

The mission dispelled qualms which many firms have about going back into Iran, having



been active there during the time of the Shah.

Its leader was Mr Terry Rochford, CKN International marketing manager for the Middle East, who lived in Tehran for two years in the mid-seventies, running his company's office there.

"They don't hold any grudges he said. "I have not been back since 1978, but they did not write me off as someone who hadn't done business there since.

"It is a country of 40m people that now has a much more realistic appraisal of its real needs. They no longer talk about grandiose schemes, but about things like housing.

"There is a move away from large turnkey projects being handled by overseas contractors – although they have also made it clear that, if their own design consultants and contractors cannot handle something, they hold a list of reputable international firms."

Although all 15 mission members were kept busy from 6am to 10pm each day, Mr Rochford says that he wished he could have stayed another week, and will be going back.

The main message they brought back was that, with the United States, Russia and France out in the cold, the prospects for Britain look even better. Even Japan, said to have been blackmailing Iran to go below Opec prices for its oil, is not in good colour.

But there is no doubt about the level of competition. "The hotels are full of foreign businessmen," recalled Mr Derek Bullivent, who acted as secretary for the mission. "But the presiden of the Iran Chamber of Commerce was at pains to stress that there is a new regime there which is prepared to trade on an even-handed basis with the rest of the world. He asked us to take that message back to Britain."

Orders are not orders until a letter of credit arrives, but one mission member was assured of £250,000 worth of business, with "much, much more to come".

Five or six trade associations are to get government subsidies of £375 a man to go to September's international exhibition in Tehran (the signal that the United Kingdom was truly welcome again coming at the fair last September, when the Iranians themselves hoisted the Union Jack among the flags of all nations taking part – and when the "Death to" chants for plenty of countries did not include Britain).

Individual companies are not going to get a British Overseas Trade Board handout. But the organizers of the private sector showing, Hammond International and Pickfords, have taken bookings from five companies since announcing it only two weeks ago.

Even the Export Credit Guarantee Department came quietly back on to short-term cover last October, having paid out £180m in claims following the flight of the middle class entrepreneurs and traders who had fiddled the economy through the boom years of the Shah.

"The scruffier he is, the more important he is going to be," said one French exporter of the Iranians he has been negotiating with during the past three years. "He'll will wear a sweater and not tie.

"Many of the senior men you are going to meet in the new state agencies will be in their mid-thirties. Once you get past the ideological haranguing that precedes every meeting, you will find them likeable, friendly and nowhere near as green as they used to be," the exporter said.

A visit can only be made if you are invited. Invitations can be fixed by an eight-strong and extremely active British Interests Section which is officially looked after, but is not actually in, the Swedish embassy. Taxi drivers get infuriated when they end up trying to drop you at a building with a blue-and-yellow flag on it.

Visas, or rather the getting of them, is a bind. They take up to 12 weedks to arrive – although Lloyds Bank International's Mr Allan Linger got one in record time last month. The Iranians had let it be known that they would like to see a two-way adviser on the Birmingham mission (it is easier to import, they explained, if we can show that we are also exporting), He joined the party just two days late.

For its part, the BIS may have lost most of its files – burn during an invasion by revolutionary guards – but not its sense of humour. A cartoon in one of its offices bears the caption: "They came in over that wall. Ethel made them a cup of tea. And they went out over that wall."

The BS is headed by Mr Nicholas Barrington, formerly ambassador in Cairo and soon to take up the same position in Lebanon.

He does not have contacts with high-level ministers. But he knows the people who make things work in numerous organizations (and is anxious to get two sets of catalogues from companies, which he will guide into the right hands).

Most exporters have economic rules-of-thumbs. Do the local matches strike? Does the tonic taste more like Epsom salts?

With the liberalization of imports late last year, a centralized purchasing structure was imposed. But it has not suffocated trade in the way that similar set-ups have elsewhere. Indeed, wthin a few months of it coming into force, British exports had sowred to £50m in December alone.

West Germany tops the sales league with 10 per cent, followed by Japan (even though it has been discriminated against recently for not quickly returning to complete a major project), with 7 per cent. France trails with 3 per cent.

The Ayatollah may have made a triumphant return courtesy of an France jumbo, but French support for Iraq has dulled their sales.

Is five per cent worth getting fussed about? Well, Iran has pushed oil output back up to more than 2 million barrels a day – and is selling it. It has no foreign debts. And with well-identified sales areas (strictly excluding consumer goods, of course), it spent $15 on imports last year.

This year, all the trade analysts are confident, it will spend $20 billion.

Details of sectors in which sales can be made are available from the Department of Trade in London (telephone 01-215 7877). Its specialists have several free booklets on offer, and a list of firms offering free market advice.

NatWest published an economic guide in February, and the bank's senior executive responsible for Iran is Mr D G Sutcliffe (telephone 01-920 5555, ext 885361). For details of private stands at September's Tehran fair, telephone Mr Andrew MacLean (0603 660277).

Economic notebook

Sterling and threats to real economy

"All our policies are designed to get inflation down, to restore honest money. If the exchange rate rises again then inflation is more likely to come down."

These words of Mrs Thatcher should strike a chill in the heart of the stoutest industrialist, just when he has convinced himself that economic recovery is on the way.

The Prime Minister was not necessarily making a statement of intent, but the temptation is only too obvious for her to use the pound's new strength to renew vigorously her crusade against inflation.

Since its nadir in March, the pound has climbed by an extraordinary 12 per cent against other leading currencies, a third of this since the election announcement three weeks ago. The City consensus is for the pound to strengthen further as the hope of a Conservative victory is growing.

This has done wonders for inflation prospects. Government forecasts of 6 per cent inflation this year, and into next, far from being hopelessly optimistic as many City analysts insisted, now look distinctly on the high side as imports have cheapened.

But the consequences for the real economy could be dire. When the pound fell out of bed last November, sighs of relief were heard all round, in the Treasury as much as in industry. After three long years of gross overvaluation – in terms of Britain's ability to compete in world markets – sterling was at last approaching realistic parities against its principal international rivals.

The impact of the lower pound on export orders, business confidence, production and profits was swift and substantial. All the more reason, then, to fear the consequences of reverse.

Sterling is now only 4 per cent below last November's level and almost 10 per cent higher than at Budget time. Against European currencies – notably the Deutsche mark – the pound is overvalued by about 30 to 35 per cent, according to Mr Gavyn Davies, of stockbrokers Simon and Coates. "The effective rate is already at a level which could seriously endanger the economic upswing," Mr Davies says, and his view is shared by an increasingly anxious Treasury.

A strong pound will hit exports just as the recovery in world trade is beginning to appear, and divert even more home demand to cheaper imports. And it will make it much harder to improve profit margins cut to the bone by the severe recession. The impact on business confidence – and on plans to invest, produce and creat jobs – could be devastating.

On rule of thumb figuring the 10 per cent appreciation since the Budget could knock 0.5 per cent off growth over the next 12 months (put by the Treasury 2.5 per cent), and more in future years. This is enough to make the difference between unemployment stablishg or continuing to climb, with economic, social and political consequences that are frightening to predict.

Mrs Thatcher is not easily frightened. But she is fond of facts. And some fascinating calculations by Mr Walter Eltis, of Oxford University, suggest that unless growth is fast enough to bring unemployment down, thereby boosting tax revenues and reducing spending on social security, Mrs Thatcher has no chance of redeeming her pledges to cut taxes.

On the contrary, Mr Eltis says: "If further years of potential growth are thrown away after 1983 with the object of reducing inflation to zero, taxes will have to rise sharply rom their already high rates."

A re-elected Mrs Thatcher will be told by her officials that interest rates should be cut to keep sterling in bounds. Despite recent poor money supply figures financial conditions generally – including the strong pound - look tight, they will argue. The need for Mrs Thatcher to deliver on growth, jobs and taxes after four lean years - and to hasten more slowly inwards her goal of price stability - is likely to tip the balance in their favour.

Frances Williams

Authorized Units & Insurance Funds

Authorized Unit Trusts

1982/83 High Bid	Low Offer	Trust	Bid	Offer	Yield
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

Insurance Bonds and Funds

1982/83 High Bid	Low Offer	Trust	Bid	Offer	Yield
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

Financial notebook

A new Tory government need not be so restrictive

An economist looks at the likely course of economic policy if Mrs Thatcher is re-elected

The announcement on May 9 of the general election was followed not by a strong rise in the exchange rate and in the financial markets, as many had expected, but by a bout of nervousness in sterling and a sharp decline in the equity market.

With hindsight this reaction is easy to rationlize.The stock market had to a certain degree been discounying an early election, and the decline in the market in the three days following appeared to illustrate the City's belief in the banana skin theory of politics.

For the first time since 1945, Labour's alternatives were radically different from economic policies of the Conservative Party. The caution induced by such a polarization between the two main parties was perhaps reinforced by a view, rightly or wrong, that the Alliance's strategy represented nothing more than a resurrection of the "failed" liberal economic policies of the 1960s and 1970s.

Given that, in varying degrees, both opposition parties are considered to be soft on the exchange rate and inflation, it is perhaps not too surprising that in the first two weeks of the campaign the market studiously ignored the large Conservative lead in the opinion polls.

This situation was transformed as investors become convinced of a Government victory, and sterling, gilts and equities have all subsequently registered sharp gains. Despite later alarms about American interest rates, with a week to go to polling, it is a highly opportune moment to examine the likely course of economic policy the Conservatives win an overall majority.

The view has been gaining ground among analysts that if this Government is re-elected it will introduce tougher monetary and fiscal policies which would put upwards pressure on interest rates. On the face it, this would appear to be sound view as the Conservative manifesto states: "Our ultimate gaol should be society with stable prices.

Monetary policy has been much more lax over the past 18 months and, if anything, has become even looser in recent months. Since the start of the new target period in February, money supply growth has accelerated sharply and is growing at between 14.5 per cent and 23 per cent, depending upon which of the three targeted measures are favouted.

So far the main culprit has been some disquieting figures on government borrowing. Not only did the 1982/83 out-turn comfortably exceed the Treasury's estimate by £1.7bn, but April's Central Government Borrowing Requirement proved to be excessive as well.

Such a turn of events reinforces the projection that this year's borrowing requirement could overshoot its £8.2bn target by £2bn. Consequently, it is small wonder that the monetarists are now coming out of the woodwork in City back offices warning that the authorities will have to tighten policy merely to prevent a re-acceleration in inflation, let alone to achieve their apparent aim of price stability.

Although the sharp drop in inflation has had a lot to do with the Government's monetary policy, for which it deserves full credit, it has had little to do with money supply *per se*.

Allowing for the monetarists' "long and variable" time lags, the growth rates in the various money supply figures would imply that inflation should now be any where between 9 per cent and 13 per cent.

However, some time ago this Government recognised that the link between money and prices was nowhere near as simple as this. During periods of severe recession, high real interest rates and high exchange rates, the monetary figures are heavily distorted and their usefulness as a guide ot policy considerably diminished.

Consequently, the Government has placed great emphasis on the level of the exchange rate as an indicator of the tightness of monetary and budgetary policy.

In the light of this, the following points should be borne in mind by those who expect a more restrictive stance.

● There is a great danger that a Conservative victory would induce another overshoot in sterling similar, in all but magnitude, to that which occurred in 1980-81.

● Britain already has one of the tightest fiscal policies in the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development.

● The pound had by the end of May recovered over 75 per cent of the depreciation which occurred between November and March and, even at these levels, forecasters can soon be expected to start paring back their output and profit forecasts.

The authorities also can probably afford to be more relaxed than the pessimists suggest about borrowing through the gilt-edged markets.

While monetary expansion has been high recently, the growth in loan demand over the past two months has fallen quite sharply.

Help may also be forthcoming in the form of better than expected news on prices. The low underlying increase revealed by the retail price index, the recovery and prospective strength in sterling and the absence of the projected cyclical rise in retailers' margins would suggest that most forecasters, have been far too pessimistic in projecting a rise in infltion to 6.5 per cent - 8 per cent in the first half of 1984.

It now looks as though inflation will rise much more modestly and peak again at around 6 per cent in the second quarter of next year, than fall back to 5 per cent six months later.

If one adds this better outlook for inflation to the other positive factors, the odds must now be on a reduction rather than an increase in British interest rates over the next 12 months.

Keith Jones

Chief Economist, James Capel and Company

Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	10 %
Barclays	10 %
BCCI	10 %
Consolidated Crds	10 %
C. Hoare & Co	*10 %
Lloyds Bank	10 %
Midland Bank	10 %
Nat Westminster	10 %
TSB	10 %
Williams & Glyn's	10 %

* 7 day deposits on sums of under £10,000, 6½%; £10,000 up to £50,000, 7¼%; £50,000 and over, 8¼%.

FOOTBALL: THE ENGLAND MANAGER SPEAKS HIS MIND

Centurion in need of rest periods

By Stuart Jones
Football Correspondent

The British championship, the oldest international competion in the world, is tottering on its last legs. One hundred years old, it is now annually wheeled out for little more than an economic exercise, although it represents the main financial artery, particularly for Wales and Northern Ireland, many feel that the patient should take longer rests, if not be put down altogether.

Bobby Robson, whose England side won the title outright on Wednesday night for the fourth time in the last five completed tournaments, says the event should be staged biennually. "It could fill the empty seasons in between the finals of the European Championships and the World Cup," he said, "although the fixture against Scotland is attractive enough to be kept on its own."

The crowd figures this year strongly support his view. The attendance at Wembley, where the feeble Scots were fortunate to avoid a heavier defeat than 2-0, was 84,000, equivalent to the sum of spectators at the other five ties. The next highest total, 24,000, for England against Wales in February, was significantly also the lowest statistic in Wembley's history.

Harry Cravem, the president of the Irish Football Association, not surprisingly takes a different stand. "It is the sincere wish of the IFA," he said, "that the championship, which is our financial lifeblood, should continue so that the influence of the four British associations would be maintained. We hope that that will also be the aim of the other associations."

He and his Irish colleagues will soon know the answer to the fateful question. Dick Wragg, the chairman of the Football Association's senior international committee, has admitted that a proposal to end the competition will be discussed at a meeting of the four associations in Guernsey at the end of the month.

If the suggestion is completely rejected, which seems unlikely, the timing of the matches will pose an awkward problem.

The argument against holding the games in the middle of the season is as relevant. There are few enough gaps in the congested fixture list already (England were without six Manchester United and Arsenal representatives against Wales) and the four home managers would prefer to use the free date to take on Continental sides. Not only is the opposition more testing but the attendances are also larger.

It is equally unlikely that the historic tournament will come to an abrupt end. Recommendations for changes to the system, as was seen notably in the disappointing reaction to the Chester report are resisted often with illogical force but it would not be surprising if Wales, who have had at least a share of the title on a dozen occasions and Northern Ireland, only seven, are left out in the cold every other year.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
England	3	2	1	0	4	1	5
Scotland	3	1	1	1	2	2	3
N. Ireland	3	0	2	1	0	1	2
Wales	3	1	0	2	2	4	2

The Watford way may soon become England's

DAVID MILLER

In what may come to be seen as a more than usually significant press conference, England's manager, Bobby Robson, yesterday for the first time stepped into the open on the controversy of the long pass and the so-called Watford Theory, putting clearly the case for its adoption by England.

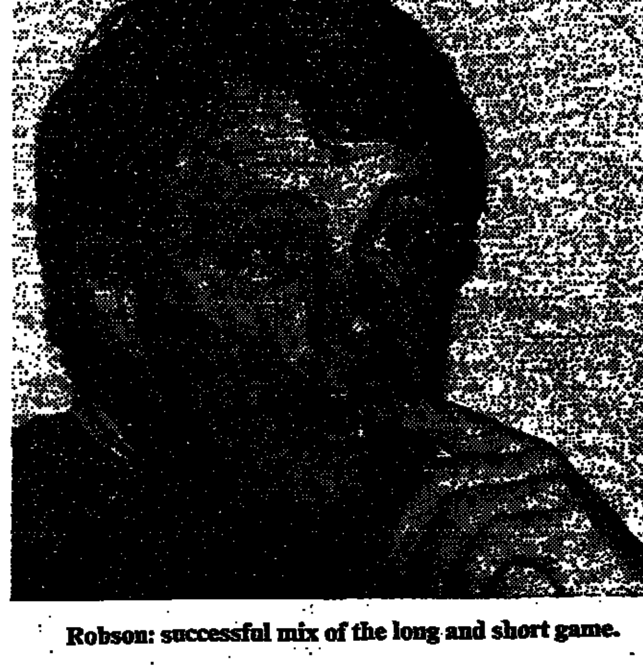
In a passionate declaration of what he wants from the national side and from the game in general, the former Ipswich Town manager and 1962 World Cup wing half said: "If any team is losing 1-0 with five minutes to go, what is every one screaming at the players? It's get the ball up the other end', of course, so why with the application of common sense should this principle not be applied for the whole ninety minutes?"

Ranged around Robson at Wembley, the morning after the 2-0 victory over Scotland which was clear cut but less than satisfying, were some of his and Watford's fiercest critics. Those critics are avidly awaiting the arrival of Terry Venables and Queens' Park Rangers in the First division to launch a counter tactical offensive and create a platform for a possible alternative national manager should Robson falter.

At the end of his first year's managership, Robson has lost only to West Germany in a friendly, with a team including five enexperienced players, a defeat that owed everything to the opportunitism of one man – Rummenigge.

At international level, the tactics of the last 10 years have fallen badly short, by the highest standards. Something new, or should I say something old, has to be tried. Robson is ready to do so. It is almost superfluous to point out that in England's entire history in the World Cup in the qualifying stages or the finals, they have won only six times away from home against opposition which could be classed in the world top 10.

The critics are already whispering that Robson's assistant, Don Howe, does not agree with the Watford Theory of Graham Taylor, that the players are unconvinced, that Robson has been unduly influenced by Charles Hughes, the FA director of coaching. All of this overlooks the facts: that Robson had an outstanding record of both consistent success and entertainment at Ipswich, that he himself learnt the game with Fulham, West Bromwich Albion and England when goals and the action flowed, and that Taylor has made the system work all the way from the fourth division to second place in the first division and may well continue to do so in Europe, to the embarrassment of the sceptics.



Robson: successful mix of the long and short game.

The Watford Theory is basically that the ball should be moved from one's own penalty area to the oppositions' in the minimum possible number of passes; that goals come from pressurizing the opposition defence and exploiting its mistakes much more than from high-sequence passing; that you do not score if you do not shoot, and you certainly will not score from your own half of the field.

Yesterday Robson, who on Monday takes a below strength squad to Australia for three matches yet is reasonably assured of a place in next year's European Championship finals in France, spelt out his reasons for adopting what he called Direct Football:

*Effective football is fundamentally a matter of playing the ball forward, early behind defenders, and getting your own players behind the defence as well.

*In principle, one pass is better than 10, two are better than 9, although sometimes four may be better than three. Direct play should not needlessly squander possession –

*The traditional short flow from goalkeeper to defenders is not the good football it has been set up to be. Intelligent coaching demonstrates that the 70 yard clearance from the goalkeeper, with the right back-up, is exciting, dangerous and often effective, eg the goal by Francis against Kuwait last summer.

*If you play the ball continuously in front of the opposing defence, they will be happy with that. It is a matter of balance between the long and short games, as exemplified by, say Rudi Krol of the Nethlands or the many successful teams of Liverpool.

*The long pass will by-pass four or five of the opposing team, and offers an alternative to the short game in midfield if your own players, eg Hoddle, are being so tightly marked that they have no scope.

*In any game it is better to have 20 shots than four, that the more you shoot the more you are likely to score, that the public are in principle happier the greater the number of shots. Multi-passing football is not necessarily effective football.

Robson pointed out that Ipswich had successfully mixed the long and short game, and that he had in fact introduced two Dutchmen, Muhren and Thyssen, who had conspicuously shortened Ipswich's style. Robson argued that he had not yet settled on the best way for an international team to play, and that he has been obliged to use his first season to explore the potential of players

He said: "There have been such massive interuptions, because of club commitments and injury, that it's always going to be difficult. I've used the year to try to find out who are the best 22 by the time we go to France. It will need a bit more time before I can say, at present I've got 35, with maybe 16 certainties. Once I've processed the players for a whole variety of reasons in addition to skills, then I'll decide on policy and how I want to play".

Shaw replaces injured Withe on tour

Peter Withe has been withdrawn from the England squad to tour Australia. A specialist decided yesterday that he needs a cartilage operation following his injury in Wednesday's 2-0 win over Scotland.

Withe's club colleague Gary Shaw is on stand-by to go as a replacement. Bobby Robson, the England manager said: "He is not what I would like. I would like another Peter Withe but there is not one available."

● Bob Paisley has added one final trophy to his collection before stepping down as Liverpool's manager. Paisley was yesterday named as Bell's Whisky manager of the year – his sixth such award to go with his sixth first division championship. He collected a special trophy and a cheque for £5,000. It was Paisley's twenty-second Bell's award in eight seasons. The second division manager of the year was Terry Venables, of Queen's Park Rangers.

● TURIN: The Juventus goalkeeper, Dino Zoff, aged 41 and captain of Italy's triumphant 1982 World Cup team, has confirmed his retirement. The Italian first division side Udinese have signed the Brazilian World Cup player Zico for £4m it was reported yesterday.

● Blackpool have been forced to sell Dave Bamber, their top scorer after being refused aid by the local council. Blackpool will receive £50,000.

MOTOR RALLYING

Walter Röhrl, of West Germany, unexpectedly won the Acropolis Rally here yesterday after Hannu Mikkola, of Finland, who had led from the start, lost time because of a radiator failure 238 miles from the finish (AFP reports from Athens). Röhrl now leads the world championship after six rounds.

Behind Röhrl, his team-mate, Markku Alen, of Finland, made sure of second place, more than seven minutes behind Röhrl.

LEADING PLACES: 1, W Röhrl (WG) Lancia Rally 11h 12min 22sec; 2, M Alen (Fin) Lancia Rally 11:18.42; 3, S Blomqvist (Swe) Audi Quattro, 11:28.18. British position: 8, J McRae, Opel Manta 400 11:58.22.
LEADING WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP POSITIONS. After six rounds: 1, Röhrl, 87pts; 2, Mikkola, 65; 3, Alen, 60.
MANUFACTURERS: 1, Lancia, 88, 2, Audi, 82, 3, Opel 61, 4.

CYCLING

Kimmage fits key to door on Farndale Moor

By John Wilcockson

Up among the skylarks and heather on Farndale Moor yesterday, Paul Kimmage, the 21-year-old from Dublin, came of age in this 26th Milk Race. Kimmage, who is still the race leader, reached the top of this hill, which rears up 750 feet in a mile, behind eight other riders, but in front of his immediate challengers, Rottler of West Germany and Sean Yates, the Great Britain professional.

Along the exposed ridge road, Kimmage was joined by nine others, including the Great Britain amateur, Malcom Elliott, who was to outsprint 16 others for a record sixth stage victory in Middlesborugh an hour later. Elliott rose to fourth place overall, still 1 min 58 sec behind Kimmage.

The tough tenth stage, through the North York Moors National Park, was sparked into action by the best climber in this race, Styks of Czechoslovakia, who broke clear on the one-in-six into Farndale, two miles before the start of the major climb. At the summit, this bronzed 21-year-old from Bohemia was 39 seconds ahead of a seven-strong group that included his team mate, Palov, the Great Britain amateurs Jeff Williams and Neil Martin, and the professional, Tony Doyle. Kimmage climbed on his own,

The two chasing groups formed into one after the treacherous descent into Westerdale.

In front, Williams rode tremendously well to keep the leading group together, to give Elliott the formaity of another sprint finish in which he finished well clear of Klasa of Czechoslovakia and Doyle.

STAGE 10 (Scarborough to Middlesborough, 56 miles): 1, M Elliott (GB amateurs) 2hrs 17min 59sec; 2, M Klasa (Cz); 3, A Doyle (GB professionals); 4, Z Szczepkowski (Pol); 5, K Nilsson (Swe); 6, J-L Garnier (Fr); 7, A Grewal (US); 8, S Brykt (Swe); 9, W Stutz (Switz); 10, K Blum (Switz) all 2:17:59. Other British placings: 14, N Martin (GB amateurs) 2:17:59; 16, J Williams (GB amateurs) 2:17:59; 19, S Yates (GB professionals) 2:19:23; 27, S Jones (GB professionals) 2:19:23; 33, K Lambert (GB professionals) 2:19:23; 40, R Downs (GB amateurs) 2:19:23; 48, S Barras (GB professionals) 2:23:15.
Overall: 1, P Kimmage 36hrs 28min 26sec; 2, M Eaton (US) 36:29:21; 3, Brykt 36:29:37; 4, Elliott 36:30:24; 5, U Rottler (WG) 36:30:32; 6, Yates 36:30:44; 7, Klasa 36:30:52; 8, Blum 36:30:58; 9, Grewal 36:30:58; 10, P Locati (Switz) 36:31:02. Other British placings: 12, Martin 36:31:35; 37, Barras 36:37:14; 41, P Bayton (GB professionals) 36:39:25; 54, Downs 37:10:02; 60, Jones 37:34:28; 61, P Bateman (GB amateurs) 37:40:54. Teams: 1, Czechoslovakia 109hrs 11min 37sec; 2, USA 109:15:30; 3, West Germany 109:15:55; 4, GB professionals 109:17:30; 5, Switzerland 109:21:28; 6, GB amateurs 109:21:38.

BOWLS

Bryant goes straight to firing line

By Gordon Allan

David Bryant, the holder, is first on the green in the Kodak Masters tournament, which begins at Beach House Park, Worthing, this morning. He plays one of five newcomers to the event, George Souza, currently Hongkong's player of the year, and said to possess a lethal firing shot. Souza won a gold medal as a lead in the fours at the 1980 world championships.

Last year's runner-up, John Snell, of Australia, has his first match against another newcomer, Neil McInnes, who was born in Scotland, emigrated to Australia and finally settled in California in 1964. Two countries are represented at the Masters for the first time: Canada by Bernie Gill, runner-up in the world indoor championship at Coatbridge last February, and Zimbabwe by Garin Beare, who also played at Coatbridge.

Gill is in Bryant's section of the draw, and so is Willie Wood, the Commonwealth Games singles champion form Scotland.

TODAY'S ORDER OF PLAY: D Bryant (Eng) v G Souza (Hong); J Snell (Aus) v N McInnes (US); G Beare (Zim) v P Belliss (NZ); W Wood (Sco) v Souza; Bryant v B Gill (Can); Snell v Belliss.

BOXING

Magri not listed as champion

East Rutherford, New Jersey (Reuter): The World Boxing Council flyweight champion, Charlie Magri, of Britain, is not rated as a world champion by the newly formed body, The United States Boxing Association International (USBAI). The title has been awarded to Santos Laciar, of Argentina, the World Boxing Association title holder.

The USBAI, who are trying to supplant the WBA and WBC, called the world's leading pro members and representatives from 22 states to a meeting here and issued a list of champions and 'elite challengers'.

CHAMPIONS: Heavyweight: Larry Holmes; Cruiser: S T Gordon; Light-heavy: Michael Spinks; Middle: Marvin Hagler; Light-middle: Davey Moore; Welter: Donald Curry; Light-welter: Aaron Pryor; Light: Ray Mancini; Junior-light: Roger Mayweather; Feather: Juan Laporte; Bantam: Jeff Chandler; Fly: Santos Laciar.

ATHLETICS

Edinburgh lose Wells to injury

Barely had Allan Wells announced that he would be competing for his club, Edinburgh Southern, in a British League match at Enfield on Saturday than the Olympic 100 metres champion pulled a hamstring. Now he will miss the fixture and the Loughborough Students v AAA match on June 12, Pat Butcher writes.

Wells was to have met Mike McFarlane at Loughborough University in a rematch of their Commonwealth Games 200 metres final.

Another top British sprinter has pulled out of the British League on Saturday . Luke Watson had agreed to run at Colindale, North London, for his club, Blackheath Harriers, until he was reminded of a pressing engagement on Sunday – three races for Great Britain in the match against the Soviet Union

BADMINTON

Gilks drops her legal claim

Gillian Gilks who at 32 remains one of the world's best players, has withdrawn her legal suit against the Badminton Association of England, Richard Streeton writes. The case, which has been pending since 1980, was due to start in the High Court next Tuesday. Ten days had been set for the hearing and the legal costs could have reached £80,000.

Mrs Gilks alleged restraint of trade in her action which arose from her non-selection for England teams and international tournaments, including the Masters at the Royal Albert Hall. She named Arthur Jones and Larry Lamb, the chairman and chief executive of the BAE and John Havers, chairman of the England selectors, in her case.

Last season Mrs Gilks was a successful member of England teams and any rift appeared to be healed.

GOLF

Weary Aoki to miss the Open

Tokyo (AFP). – Isao Aoki, of Japan has decided not to play in the Open championship from July 14-17 because of "fatigue". After winning the Hawaii Open, Aoki competed in 11 tournaments in the United States before returning to Japan in April. He entered a Tokyo hospital for a check-up on Tuesday.

● Sun Alliance have ended their sponsorship of the PGA championship. The insurance group began their support of golf 10 years ago when they took over sponsorship of the Ryder Cup. That connection ended after the 1981 match at Walton Heath. This year's PGA championship, won on Monday by Severiano Ballesteros, was the fourth championship sponsored by them.

More golf, page 24

RUGBY UNION

Boot that carries Lions' hopes

From Don Cameron
Christchurch

The British Lions are using brave words such 'dedication' and 'character' and are obviously prepared for a brave performance in the first international against the All Blacks at Lancaster Park tomorrow. But all the bravery and grit cannot disguise the fact that these Lions are a week or two short of being really ready for such a test.

Apart from the time John Dawes's singular team of Lions in 1971 won the first international. All history and tradition seem to favour the All Blacks in the first international of a series. So the 1983 Lions will face the twin adversaries of history and their own erratic lead-up play. Should Ciaran Fitzgerald spark his team alight with his leadership, and Ollie Campbell supply the goalkicks the Lions have a winning chance, but it does seem the slimmest of chances.

Jim Telfer, the Lions coach, made the very good point after the battle of Manawatu that the Lions' rigorous itinerary had put them in better mettle for this match than would a series of easy matches, the Lions know, after the hard and difficult matches, just what manner of physical challenge they can expect.

Their backs, especially, have been erratic, and so the Lions have reverted to the game they know well, and have used so extensively in the home championship – strong surging forwards, "blockers" in the midfield backs and the points coming from goalkicks or the sharply taken chance from loose play.

This demands a dominating display from the forwards, high pressure defence from the backs and a high level of speed throughout the team. The Lions forwards have been good without appearing dominant. The defence is more than adequate, but because they are still searching for a playing pattern they have not been able to generate a high level of speed in their play.

While the All Blacks may seek a more expansive style of play than the Lions, especially at lifting the pace of the game through their loose forwards and three-quarters, they should be able to counter the Lions if they should chose the 10-man approach. After all it is not so long ago that the All Blacks may have claimed the copyright for such a conservative style.

The Lions will depend on the steadiness of their forwards and the close liasion between Terry Holmes and Campbell in the half-backs. They have not had enough time or inclination to encourage the attacking game through Michael Kiernan at centre, so David Irwin and Robert Ackerman will probably do the tactical kicking if Campbell frees the ball.

The Lions may well channel their main attack through Campbell's probing boot, or through Holmes linking with the back row. Jeff Squire, Iain Paxton, and Peter Winterbottom. Early in the tour the Lions back row attacks flourished, but recently they have been stifled as New Zealand loose forwards tend to tackle well near the scrum.

The All Blacks are by no means impregnable. They must nurse along two new young inside backs Ian Dunn and Warwick Taylor.

NEW ZEALAND: A Hewson, S Wilson, S Pokere, W Taylor, B Fraser; I Dunn, D Loveridge; J Ashworth, A Dalton (capt), G Knight, A Haden, G Whetton, J Hobbs, M Mexted, M Shaw.
BRITISH LIONS: H P MacNeill (Oxford University, Blackrock College and Ireland); T M Ringland (Ballymena and Ireland), D G Irwin (Instonians and Ireland), R A Ackerman (London Welsh and Wales), G R T Baird (Kelso and Scotland); S O Campbell (Old Belvedere and Ireland), T D Holmes (Cardiff and Wales); I Stephens (Bridgend and Wales), C F Fitzgerald (St Mary's and Ireland, capt), G Price (Pontypool and Wales), M J Colclough (Angoulême and England), R L Norster (Cardiff and Wales), J Squire (Pontypool and Wales), I A M Paxton (Selkirk and Scotland), P J Winterbottom (Headingley and England).
Referee: F Palmade (France).

A referee from a hard school

Christchurch (AFP): The referee for the All Blacks-Lions game, Francois Palmade, does not envisage any serious trouble between the two sides tomorrow. "I have refereed the New Zealanders before and know the style they prefer. As long as there are no illegal tactics that is okay by me. But brutality is the same meaning the world over. That I do not allow."

Mr Palmade, a French Post Office inspector who is taking his annual four weeks holiday to make this trip, added: "I do not regard All Black rugby as anything like as bad as the game in France. French rugby is dirty, it is a pity that it is. In France they are less and less virile and manly, but more and more dirty. Rugby in France is brutal. I have prepared six months for this experience. I have dieted and run at least 15 kilometres a day. I am really fit".

BASKETBALL

Dassie's return sets an early task for Taylor

By Nicholas Harling

Larry Dassie, one of the most popular players to have appeared in the National League, has returned to one of his old clubs, Ovaltine Hemel Hempstead. Dassie, a 27-year-old 6ft 5in forward from Jacksonville, Florida, spent the last year playing for Klosterneuberg, whom he helped to win the Austrian championship.

Previously with Embassy Milton Keynes, Crystal Palace, now defunct, and with whom he won various honours. Dassie also played for Kingston before his departure to the Continent. He has always been a reliable points scorer, but it will be Dassie's defensive qualities that Rick Taylor, Hemel's new coach, will doubtless be hoping to improve. "I feel that I am joining what is obviously a well-run and go-ahead team and I am sure we will be right in front in the race for the championship title," Dassie said. Hemel were third last season.

Another new coach in the National League is Jim Kelly, a West Virginian, who has joined Solent Stars, the cup winners having parted company with Steve Fitzsimons.

هكذا من الاصل

RUGBY UNION

Boot that carries Lions' hopes

From Ben Cameron
Christchurch

A referee from a hard school

BASKETBALL

Aussie's return sets an early task for Taylor

By Nicholas Harling

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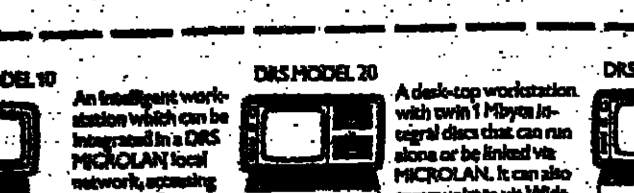
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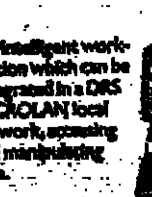
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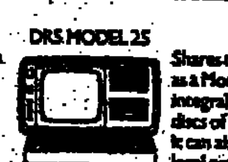


DRS MODEL 10



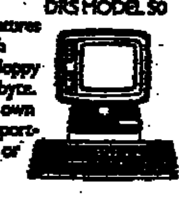
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TC82

RACING: PIGGOTT SUPREME AGAIN IN THE CORONATION CUP

Champion bides his time on Be My Native

By Michael Phillips, Racing Correspondent

There is certainly no holding Lester Piggott these days. Following his ninth triumph in the Derby on Wednesday, he rode the winner of the Coronation Cup for the ninth time at Epsom yesterday, this time on Be My Native.

In contrast to Wednesday when he gave a supreme display of dictating the situation from near the front, Piggott did precisely the opposite and rode a gem of a waiting race on a horse whose ability to stay a mile and a half had always been questioned hitherto.

It was for that very reason that he dropped Be My Native out last early on and did not show his hand until half way up the straight. When he did, the speed that enabled Be My Native to win over a mile and a quarter as a three year old, besides finishing second in the Budweisser Million at Arlington Park last August, was utterly decisive against rivals who were, to be frank, one paced.

Not surprisingly, after that extremely lucrative venture to Chicago last year, the American race again figures prominently on Robert Armstrong's plan for Be My Native during the rest of this season. Be My Native is owned by a partnership of four, headed by that great enthusiast Keith Hsu. "Tote" Cherry-Downes, the bloodstock agent who bought Be My Native for only $45,000 when he was a yearling luckily retained a share and is another of his proud owners.

Although Armstrong won top class sprints with that good horse Moorestyle, yesterday's coup represented his greatest training triumph since he took over the helm at St Gatien from his late father, Sam. And it was a fine achievement because Be My Native is a thin skinned horse who does not thrive in the cold. In a spring like this it could not have been at all easy getting him fit.

Electric, who was runner-up yesterday, ran his race in snatches leaving one wondering whether he still feels that old injury in his back from time to time, especially on an undulating course like this. This injury caused him to run badly twice last year and although he did not run badly yesterday, at no stage were either his connexions or his backers at ease.

Afterwards his trainer Michael Stout who will aim Electric at Royal Ascot's Hardwicke Stakes, said that he will have to decide before ten o'clock this morning whether to send Cock Robin to Chantilly for Sunday's French Derby. Stoute withdrew Cock Robin from Wednesday's Derby because the ground deteriorated so badly and the ground will be the deciding factor again. Cock Robin is clearly a good horse judged on the way that he goes at home with the Derby third, Shearwalk. Stoute also issued a warning that he will think twice about running the 1,000 Guineas runner-up Royal Heroine in Saturday's Oaks if there is more rain at Epsom and the ground deteriorates as a result.



The king of Epsom collecting his ninth Coronation crown

Judgment secret of maestro's success

By Michael Seely

Lester Piggott now needs only one more winner to equal Frank Buckle's record total of 27 classic victories. The narrowest dividing line in life is that which separates the winners from the merely highly successful. The ultimate quality which enables its possessors to cross this magic line is judgment. And this is the secret of Piggott's pre-eminence.

Back in 1966 it was the jockey's insistence on his right to choose his classic mounts which enraged racing's traditionalists. Although to this day Piggott insists that there was no formal contract, it was understood that he was retained by Sir Noel Murless for whom he had already ridden six classic winners. And it was Piggott's determination to partner the winner, Valoris, for Vincent O'Brien, instead of Varinia for Murless, in that year's Oaks that led to the parting of their ways.

It must have been a hard decision to take. The options on these occasions are very limited. Few horses are capable of winning the classics in any given year. And most of their trainers have their contract jockeys. So the alliance between Piggott and O'Brien was of mutual advantage. This partnership became one of the most formidable that racing has ever seen. Its formation was as logical as is the present association between Piggott and Henry Cecil. It is quite simply a case of the best in one branch of the sport teaming up with the best in another.

But the paramount exercise of Piggott's supreme judgment occurs on the track itself. Everyone, including his fellow jockeys knew that the maestro was going to make an early break for home on Teenoso. But they still let him steal a priceless advantage.

Now make no mistake. Teenoso would have won however he had been ridden; also probably by any other jockey who took part in Wednesday's race. But Piggott is above all a percentage man, both in his judgment beforehand and also in his tactics when in action. He makes the fewest mistakes by invariably being in the right place at the right time. He was, therefore, able to make success doubly sure on Teenoso.

This is the reason why he is going to ride more classic winners than any man in history before he decides to hang up his boots. It all sounds so simple. But as many of us lesser mortals know to our cost, the ability to make the correct decision at the correct time is a pearl beyond price. An that is why Lester Piggott is still king of the turf, 30 years after claiming his first Derby on Never Say Die.

Nauteous on the right mark

By Michael Phillips

The Northern Dancer Handicap, run over a mile and a half, is the most valuable race at Epsom today on this, the least interesting day of the four day classic meeting.

Anyone who does their homework should find it hard to escape the view that Nauteous has an excellent chance of beating Forward. They clashed once last year at Salisbury where Nauteous won by a length. On that occasion he was receiving 11lb from Forward; now he is getting 25lb from him.

With Joe Mercer unable to do the required weight on Nauteous Brian Rouse has been given the opportunity to shine again on the horse that he rode to victory over today's distance at Lingfield last July.

Mercer will be on his stable companion Fitzpatrick who so nearly won the Rosebery Memorial Handicap over today's course and distance last year. But Fitzpatrick has not had a race this season whereas my selection has and that could be decisive. Keelby Kavalier looks the pick of the remainder, even though he has been penalized for winning at Doncaster last Saturday.

Hossam has a chance of winning the Sun Life of Canada Hndicap now that he will be meeting his Newmarket conqueror, Quite A Night, on 2lb better terms. There was only a neck between them when they clashed before. However, in this instance I prefer Rangefinder who won most emphatically at Pontefract recently. Before that Rangefinder had run encouragingly at York where he was runner up to Airfield, beaten only three-quarters of a length. There is a thread of goodness running through thi form because Airfield was then runner up to Schuss in the Cecil Frail Handicap at Haydock.

Pat Eddery looks poised to land afirst and last-race double on Indigo Jones (2.0) and Floating Petal (4.50) before he hastens north to Haydock where he has more fancied rides. Indigo Jones was runner up to All Agreed at Lingfield while Floating Petal was second to the Oaks hope Shore Line at Newmarket, beaten only a head. Amember of the all-conquering Geoff Wragg stable, Floating Petal has been working very well at home recently with that talented filly Favoridge.

Finally, Lester Piggott seems to have a good chance of winning the Canada House Handicap on Star Of Ireland, who was far from disgraced at Brighton even though he could finish only third to Speed Of Music.

● Yesterday's Carlisle meeting was called off because of a waterlogged course. This brings the number of Flat fixtures lost this season to 31.

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Epsom: 2.0 Turcy Boy. [illegible] Catterick: 2.45 Song to Singo, 3.45 For Your Eyes, 4.15 Jimmy Raine and Real Cool. Haydock: 7.0 Persian Friend. 9.0 Comedy Fair.

OFFICIAL SCRATCHINGS: Gold Cup Royal Ascot: Hungry Heart, Terreno. Kings Stand Royal Ascot: Dream Again. [illegible] Royal Ascot: Hawkeye, Magwal, [illegible] Coquelin, Coventry Stakes Royal Ascot: Indigo Jones, Special Settlement, [illegible] Oak, Megastar, Glisten, [illegible] Durango. Coronation Stakes [illegible] Pampas, Golden Rhyme, [illegible] Mercy, Quickening Dawn, [illegible] Little Meadow, Dona Gaiord, [illegible] Slew. St James's Palace Stakes [illegible] Prince Spy, Indian Rajah, Sir [illegible] Home, Conerton, Alverton, [illegible] dien, Rodwell, Cause Celab[illegible] Walhen, Matou, Krayyan.

Dettori grounded for six days

By Michael Seely

Gianfranco Dettori, 10 times Italian champion jockey and already leading rider in that country this season with 103 winners to his credit, is going to spend an enforced week's holiday topping up his credit, is going to spend and enforced week's holiday topping up his sun tan in his native Sardinia. At Epsom yesterday the stewards held an inquiry into the incident in the Derby which caused the fall of Yawa. The authorities found "that Tolomeo had crossed over to the running rail thereby causing interference to Holmburry and Shearwalk which resulted in Yawa clipping the heels of Shearwalk and unseating Waldron.

The Stewards found Dettori guilty of careless riding and suspended him for six days from the 11th to the 16th of June inclusive."

Due to other inquiries into the big race on Wedesday the stewards failed to summon Dettori until the jockey had left for Heathrow. And he was comfortably ensconsed in a seat for the 6.30 Air Italia flight to Rome before the jockey received a message to return to Epsom.

The incident occurrd four and a half furlongs from home just before the entrance into the straight. Holmbury and Michael Miller were racing on the inside rails as Dettori moved Tolomeo past him. Because of the nature of the camber Tolomeo crossed over too sharply, thereby setting up a chain reaction which affected the other three horses concerned. It must be stressed that the incident was entirely accidental but an experienced jockey such as Dettori should have realised that this was likely to occur and should have made more effort to keep Tolomeo straight.

"I accept that the movement occurred and that it had a concertina effect. But it was invountary," said the jockey afterwards. However there is no doubt that a serious accident could have been caused.

Luca Cumani, Tolomeo's trainer, acted as interpreter for Dettori who was certainly not cast down by his troubles. "What I lose in money during my holiday I shall gain in health by swimming and lying in the sun." The diminutive Sardinian is only knee-high to a grasshopper. When asked about his height he peered up at his interrogator and said: "If I had been any taller I would not have been a jockey. I live well and eat what I like, which is more than you can say for Lester Piggott." Having made his point Dettori then returned to Heathrow to continue his interrupted journey.

Cumani then received compensation for his disappointment with Tolomeo when the much-improved Tom Okker beat Wagoner by five lengths in the Rosebery Memorial Handicap. Ridden by Willie Carson, Tom Okker went clear early in the straight and won in fluent style. "He will probably run in the King George V Stakes at Royal Ascot. And afterwards we may try to find a pattern race for him."

Local stables continued in good form. Geoff Lewis landed a double for Esal Commodities by winning the Staff Ingham Stakes with Hit The Heights and the concluding Nightingall Maiden Stakes with Nestor. Philip Waldron rode both winners. The victory of Hit The Heights was entirely unexpected as the two-year-old bravely resisted the challenge of the odds-on favourite, King of Clubs. "I thought the colt was far too inexperienced and he had shown us little at home. We'll now have to find a seven furlong race for him", Lewis said.

Tony Ingham had started the good work for Epsom when Greville Starkey rode Walton Heath to a decisive victory in the Egmont Selling Stakes. And the bowler-hatted figure of Jack O'Donoghue struck a blow for nearby Reigate when the pony-sized Little Starchy defied a penalty for his recent Bath win in the Ring and Brymer Trophy.

● There will be a 7am inspection at Haydock to see whether this evening's meeting can take place. The Clerk of The Course Philip Arkwright said, "the prospects are poor. We had a downpour yesterday and any more rain would make racing impossible." Should the meeting take place the going will be heavy, and the five furlong, six furlong and mile and threequarter races will be started by flag.

EQUESTRIANISM

Dressage rehearsal before Aachen

By Jenny MacArthur

Goodwood celebrates its tenth year of international dressage with the largest entry for its championships, sponsored by Inchcape Ltd, which start today at the home of the Earl and Countess of March.

In recognition of the anniversary, the Federation Equestre and Internationale, the sports governing body, have made a special dispensation. Although these championships consist of a "friendly" international competition, the FFI are allowing a team competition. It will be held within the grand prix class on Saturday afternoon.

Eight countries are competing and the competition will have a special edge to it in view of the approaching European championships at Aachen, from June 21 to 26th. Britain's top dressage rider, Jennie Loriston-Clarke, and Dutch Courage, who won the bronze medal at the 1978 Goodwood world championships, will lead the British entry which includes up-and-coming combinations as well as those already at the top.

Denmark and Switzerland are both fielding strong sides. The Danish riders are led by Anne Grethe Jensen and Marzog who caused a stir at Dortmund in April when they won the grand prix beating both the world champion, Reiner Klimke (Germany), on Ahlerich, and his compatriot, the world bronze medallist, Uwe Schulten-Baumer, on Slibovitz.

West Germany, the world champions, have not sent their top riders; Klimke and Schulten-Baumer are saving their horses for Aachen. Instead the country is represented by a young team who include Jan Bemelmans and Angelino who have won four grands prix and are thirteenth in the world ratings.

The three days of competition end on Sunday with the Grand Prix Special, a class which features the best 12 riders from Saturday's grand prix, followed by the free-style test set to music, a competition at which Mrs Loriston-Clarke and Dutch Courage excel.

St James's second cup

By a Special Correspondent

Nick Skelton on St James, winners of the main jumping class on the first day of the Royal Bath and West Show, yesterday completed an excellent double when they won the show's most prestigious competition, the Babycham Gold Cup.

Despite a torrential rainstorm just before the class started, five horses were initially clear. Robert Smith on Mista, who had 12 faults, began the jump-off, then St James was unpenalised in what proved also to be the fastest round. David Bowen, on Coady, had two fences down. Liz Edgar and Everest Forever knocked a brick from a wall at the end of a treble to finish second and The Rascal, ridden by Tony Bewbery, also incurred four faults, in a slower time, for third place.

The champion in the hack classes was the small hack winner, Miss S Boswell's and Mrs M Boswell's eight-year-old Savoir Faire, by Blue Riband, who was second at Newark, and the reserve champion was the large hack, Secret Agent, owned by Mrs P Russell-Wood.

In a strong cobs' class the winner was Mr W Whale's Buzby, a seven-year-old grey by Greenwhistle, shown by Vin Toulson.

RESULTS: Babycham Cup: 1, T Clemence's St James (N Skelton); 2, Everest Double Glazing's Everest Forever (L Edgar); 3, D H D Bunn's The Rascal (T Newbery). Showing Classes: Champion child's pony in hand: Miss S Jewson's Copybush Quadrille; reserve: Mr and Mrs C Sandison's Bridesmaid of Rosevean. Cobs: 1, Mrs W Whale's Buzby; 2, D Spearing's Bow Brook; 3, K Luxford's Grandstand. Champion Hack: Miss S Boswell's and Mrs M Boswell's Savoir Faire; reserve: Mrs P Russel-Wood's Secret Agent. Champion arab: Mrs J F D Trimingham's Riaz; reserve: Major and Mrs P W S Maxwell's Hagunia.

Young rider and Mr Moon shine

Jonquil Sainsbury on her Mr Moon gave a polished performance in the first day's dressage phase to go into the lead in the first British Young Riders Championship, sponsored by Barbour, to be held in this country at the Brownham three-day event at Wetherby, Yorkshire, a Special Correspondent writes. Miss Jonquil, aged 20, has already enjoyed success here and has won and been placed four times in events this year.

In the dressage at the British Junior championships, sponsored by Ti Creda rescued by Brownham after Windsor was cancelled last weekend, Fenella Fawcas, as expected leads on Blue Max II.

British Junior Championship: 1, Blue Max II (F Fawcus), 50; 2, Spirit of Calvados (S Ambler), 51.60; 3, Golden Tango (P Surl), 54.

British Young Riders' Championships: 1, Mr Moon (J Sainsbury), 56.7; 2, Gin and Orange (A M Taylor), 58.5; 3, Marsh Light (J Snelson), 59.4).

IN BRIEF

Bombay (AP): Several Indian cricket players, including the captain Kapil Dev, are being approached with offers to play in South Africa as part of a series of matches planned for next year, the *Bombay Free Press Journal* reported yesterday. West Indian players currently in England for the World Cup tournament, including the captain Clive Lloyd, will also be offered lucrative contracts to play in the series, the paper said.

Imran Khan has already rejected a "fabulous offer". The story indentified Morgan Anstey of South African Breweries as the man who would contact Kapil Dev, the former Indian captain Sunil Gavaskar and Mohinder Amarnath in London. Former Indian and Pakistani Test palyers would be offered up to $100,000 for one visit while Kapil Dev, Gavaskar and Amarnath would get upwards of $300,000 in any currency. A two-year contract may also be signed.

ATHLETICS: Steve Ovett plans to launch his summer season on the track with three races in six days. The Olympic 800 metres champoin and world 1,500 metres record holder, aims for the Edinburgh games at Meadowbank on June 26, the Bislett games in Oslo two days later and an England match in Birmingham on July 1.

Epsom

Draw advantage: Low numbers best

Tote Double: 3.10, 4.15. Treble: 2.35, 3.40, 4.50.

[Television (ITV) 2.35, 3.10 and 3.40 races]

2.0 WOODBINE STAKES (2-y-o: £2,578: 5f) (7 runners)

104 0 DOMINATE (A Perry) D Whelan 9-0 ....A Clarke 3
106 42 INDIGO JONES (Roldvale Ltd) J Sutcliffe 9-0 ....Pat Eddery 5
108 OUT TO PLAY (P Jubert) A Pitt 9-0 ....L Piggott 4
110 02 SING TO ME (D Seale) R Hannon 9-0 ....P Cook 7
113 3242 TURCY BOY (B) (all K Al Jafleh) C Benstead 9-0 ....B Rouse 2
114 0 MUSIC FESTIVAL (B Higgins) B Swift 8-11 ....J Mercer 6
116 4 SHAMBOLIC (Mrs G Smith) R Smyth 8-11 ....W Carson 1

2 Indigo Jones, 3 Sing To Me, 9-2 Out to Play, 6 Shambolic, 8 Turcy Boy, 10 Music Festival 20 Dominate

2.35 SUN LIFE OF CANADA HANDICAP (3-y-o: £3,366: 1m 2f) (11)

201 22010-1 QUITE A NIGHT (D) (T Blackwell) B Hobbs 9-7 ....G Baxter 11
205 10-42 HOSSAM (Prince F Khaled) P Walwyn 8-5 ....J Reid 1
206 3041-00 TIMBER CREEK (A Perry) D Whelan 8-2 ....A Clarke 3 9
208 1420- ROYAL VALEUR (M Swarzman) A Jarvis 8-2 ....P Waldron 10
210 4404-21 RANGEFINDER (S Wingfield Digby) B Hills 8-1 (5 ex) ....R Hills 3 8
212 2413-00 OMINOUS (Lord McAlpine) R Smyth 7-13 ....W Carson 3
213 0344-00 WOOLOWARE (J Cribb) G Balding 7-11 ....W Higgins 4
216 30-03 KONDAIR (G Ward) D Arbuthnot 7-7 ....M Hills 5 5
218 00-0124 MISS ZHIVAGO (J Zwirn) N Callaghan 7-7 ....W Ryan 7 6
219 00-00 FIZZER (U Schwarzenbach) R Hannon 7-7 ....A McGlone 5 7
220 040-042 DRUM MAKER (Economic Drums Ltd) N Vigors 7-7 ....S Dawson 5 2

5-2 Rangefinder, 3 Quite A Night, 4 Hossam, 6 Miss Zhivago, 8 Royal Valeur, 10 Drum Maker, Kondair, Ominous, 14 others.

FORM: Quiet A Night (9-1) won nk from Hossam (rec 14 lb) 7 ran. Newmarket 1m 2f h'cap good to soft May 14. Rangefinder (8-7) won 2½ l from Zaheendar (gave 14 lb) 10 ran. Pontefract 1m h'cap [illegible] May 27. Ominous (9-6) 7th beaten over 30l to High Calory (rec 7lb) 9 ran. Bath 1m 2f h'cap heavy May 7. Kondair (8-8) 3rd beaten 4l to Amarone (rec 21 lb) with Timber Creek (gave 8lb) 17 ran. Brighton 1m h'cap soft May 20. Miss Zhivago (7-1) 4th beaten 13l to Triple Jump (gave 4lb) 8 ran. Newbury 1m 4f h'cap heavy May 13. Drum Maker (8-7) 2nd beaten 3l to Nashaab (gave 3lb) 10 ran. Folkestone 1m 2f h'cap heavy May 23.

SELECTION: Rangefinder

3.10 NORTHERN DANCER HANDICAP (£5,818: 1m 4f) (8)

[illegible]

SELECTION: Forward

3.40 CANADA HOUSE HANDICAP (3-y-o: £3,470: 7f) (14)

[illegible]

SELECTION: Sir Butch

4.15 MAPLE LEAF AUCTION STAKES (2-y-o maidens: £2,670: 6f) (15)

[illegible]

4.50 ALBERTA ROSE STAKES (3-y-o maiden fillies: £2,901: 1m 110yds) (13)

[illegible]

Stratford-on-Avon

6.30 DEALERS HURDLE (selling handicap: £1,005: 2m) (20 runners)

1 p00 Fledge 6-12-5 [illegible]
4 000 Busy Quay 6-11-11 [illegible]
5 000 Mendaleek 6-11-9 [illegible]
6 400 No Sale 4-11-6 [illegible]
7 030 Wester Ross 6-11-6 [illegible]
9 001 Castleshane Pat [illegible]
10 403 Artac Charter [illegible]
12 000 Ringabing 5-10-12 [illegible]
13 0u0 Royal Manx 6-10-11 [illegible]
14 002 Gold Floor 6-10-9 [illegible]
15 00p String 6-10-9 [illegible]
16 b20 Kashill 5-10-9 ....M Carberry 7
18 210 La Seine (B) 5-10-6 ....F Byrne 7
19 000 Kings Town 6-10-6 ....R Hyett
22 000 Rochester Way 6-10-5 ....Miss Harvey 7
24 f-00 Belvoir Rose 5-10-5 ....M Hammond 4
26 330 Lotus Dancer 4-10-5 ....C Warren 7
28 2p0 Ribo Charter 6-10-3 ....Mr Millington 4
30 303 My Challenge (B) 5-10-1 ....W Worthington 7
32 p00 Eggington (B) 5-10-1 ....Mr Macewan 7

5-2 Castleshane Pat, 7-2 Artac Charter, 9-2 Gold Floor, 5 Fledge.

7.0 HUNT SUPPORTERS CHASE (novice handicap: £1,905: 2m) (15)

1 11u Greenwood Lad 6-12-7 ....R Rowe
2 221 Fire Drill 8-12-7 (6 ex) ....P Richards
3 34f Oyster Pond 6-11-13 ....G McCourt
4 r21 Aldro 7-11-13 (8 ex) ....S Smith Eccles
6 003 St Alezan 6-11-1 ....P Scudamore
7 013 Dundrum Bay 6-10-13 ....P Stone 7
8 00u Wine Talk 6-10-9 ....J Suthern
10 040 Bargello Son 6-10-6 ....M Yeoman 7
11 0p1 Fox Bridge 8-10-5 ....N Madden
13 241 Golden Cymbal (B) 6-10-3 ....M Williams
[illegible] Aspen Flare 7-10-3 ....C Warren 7
[illegible] Luckwell Bridge 7-10-1 ....C Smith
[illegible] Polly's Owen 6-10-1 ....C Brown
[illegible] Pond Hill 9-10-0 ....A Webb
[illegible] Landas Slave 7-10-0 ....M Hammond 4

[illegible] Greenwood Lad, 4 Aldro, 5 Fire Drill, 6 [illegible]

7.30 JOHN CORBET HUNTER CHASE (amateurs: £2,292: 3m 2f) (18)

2 f10 Ballet Master 10-12-0 ....D Williams 4
3 0fp Blue Beans 8-12-0 ....J Frost 4
4 201 Casa Knipe 8-12-0 ....K Reveley 4
7 111 Drake's Pinnacle 7-12-0 ....R Barber 7
8 2u1 Fishleigh Gamble 8-12-0 ....Miss Curling 7
10 021 Gambling Ghost 8-12-0 ....R Dunwoody 7
11 p00 Graffiti 12-12-0 ....S Cowley 7
12 241 Hillingdon Boy 9-12-0 ....M Arthurs 7
13 114 Housemistress 8-12-0 ....Miss Harper 7
14 2 Just Once 6-12-0 ....A Hill 7
15 412 Kentigern 7-12-0 ....Miss Dare 4
17 401 Little Bilsham 9-12-0 ....W Bryan 7
19 0/up Rikki Tikki Travi 7-12-0 ....J Newton
20 p3 Sidbury Hill 7-12-0 ....J Wilson
21 30u Sinsimawa VI 13-12-0 ....M Williams 7
22 2pu Spartan Rambler 6-12-0 ....J Pritchard 7
23 1-33 Spartan Scot 12-12-0 ....N Oliver 4
24 102 Willow Burn 9-12-0 ....A Dudgeon 7

3 Fishleigh Gamble, 4 Willow Burn, 9-2 Drake's Pinnacle, 13-2 Little Bilsham.

8.0 SADDLERS CHASE (handicap: £1,654: 2m) (13)

1 142 Spinning Saint 9-12-7 ....A Webber
4 211 Master Davenport 11-11-12 ....G McCourt
[illegible]
20 p00 Ballybutler 11-10-0 ....Mr Crozier
23 fup Durham Lad 10-10-0 .... –
25 200 Intoxicated 9-10-0 ....T Wall 4
28 000 Chocolate Imp 10-10-0 ....M Coyle
31 u40 Pomme d'Afrique 7-10-0 ....S May

11-4 Master Davenport, 7-2 Spinning Saint, 11-2 Orange Tag, 7 Rusthall.

8.30 NIMROD HURDLE (amateurs handicap: £1,853: 2m 6f) (22)

3 403 Rigton Beau 6-11-12 ....R Dunwoody 7
5 p Lauderhill 4-11-10 ....Miss Jane Fellows 7
10 000 Run To Me 6-11-8 ....Mrs Mitchell 7
12 0p-u Royal Stuart 12-11-7 ....Miss Wilson
14 004 Donaghmoyne 6-11-6 ....M Kilford 7
15 322- Berkeley Lad 6-11-5 ....P Hobbs 4
16 010 Native Break 6-11-4 ....J Bryan 4
19 242 Applejo 7-11-0 ....J White 4
20 p20 Party Miss 8-11-0 ....Miss Chard 7
21 403 Lost For Words 6-11-0 ....Mrs Brown 7
22 000 New Note 6-10-12 ....Mrs Matthews 7
23 200 Virbian 7-10-11 ....Mrs Dickin 7
24 010 Smithy Lane 5-10-9 ....Miss Waterman
25 202 Sarsfield 5-10-9 ....S Sharwood 4
26 000 Chelsea Island 6-10-8 .... –
28 033 Carrie Ann 11-10-8 ....Mrs Rees 4
30 000 Pin Tuck 9-10-7 ....M Williams 7
33 340 Beau Wynk 10-10-7 ....Miss Key 7
34 p0p Breac Ban 5-10-7 ....J Wilson
35 p40 Sky Rider 7-10-7 ....C Hamblin 7
36 043 Gold Chief 9-10-7 ....Miss Morrell 7
38 013- Tarwhita 11-10-7 ....J Cambidge 4

5-2 Rigton Beau, 4 Applejo, 5 Sarsfield, 7 Native Break.

9.0 YOUNG ENTRY HURDLE (4-y-o handicap: £889: 2m) (16)

2 311 Penny's Dream 11-12 (10 ex) ....M Thompson 7
5 130 Ben Ewen 11-8 ....P Sudamore
6 211 Ribot Star 11-5 (10 ex) ....R Chapman 7
7 110 Tarsus 11-4 ....R Hughes
8 012 Can't Swim 11-3 ....C Warren 7
9 410 Rodeco 11-3 (10 ex) ....Mrs Dickin 7
14 003 Super Brat 11-1 ....C Grant
16 402 Peak Tower 11-0 ....A Lovell
19 040 Thornton 10-13 ....S May
22 000 Bishops Ride 10-9 ....A Webber
25 0f4 Sandy Bight 10-8 ....T Wall 4
27 042 Lance Of St George 10-5 ....Miss James 7
28 01f Beaming Lass 10-4 ....M Williams
29 334 Sweet Solicitor (B) 10-3 ....J Williams
30 100 Porto Louise 10-3 ....W Newton 7

3 Ribot Star, 100-30 Peak Tower, 9-2 Penny's Dream, 8 Ben Ewen.

STRATFORD SELECTIONS: 6.30 Gold Floor. 7.0 Aldro. 7.30 Fishleigh Gamble. 8.0 Master Davenport. 8.30 Berkeley Lad. 9.0 Ben Ewen.

Epsom results

2.00 (2.02) EGMONT STAKES (3-y-o: selling: £3,454: 1m 110yds)

WALTON HEATH br g by Persian Bold – Fas Pas (S Crowe) 9-0 ....G Starkey (10-1) 1
Amber Windsor ....Pat Eddery (11-4 fav) 2
Merry Tom ....A Kimberley (33-1) 3

TOTE: Win: £7.10. Places: £1.60, £1.50, £12.90. DF: £22.10. CSF: £36.47. Aingham at Epsom. 3l, 2½l. Charmed Life Too (16-1) 4th. 13 ran 1m 51.67sec.

2.35 (2.36) RING & BRYMER HANDICAP (£4,827: 5f)

LITTLE STARCHY bh by Starch Reduced – Misty Morn (J Fletcher) 5-8-6 ....R Fox (5-2 jt fav) 1
Bonnie Baiser ....J Murray (5-1) 2
Byroc Boy ....J Whitworth (50-1) 3

TOTE: Win: £2.70. Places: £1.60, £2.70, DF: £5.20. CSF: £13.38. J O'Donoghue at Reigate. l, 6l. Alev (5-2 jt fav) 4th 7 ran. 57.74sec. NR: Misty For Me.

3.10 (3.11) CORONATION CUP (Group 1: £42,338: 1m 4f)

BE MY NATIVE br c by Our Native – Witchy Woman (K Hsu) 4-9-0 ....L Piggott (8-1) 1
Electric ....W R Swinburn (7-2 jt fav) 2
Old Country ....S Cauthen (3-1) 3

TOTE: Win: £4.70. Places: £2.80, £1.20, DF: £7.80. CSF: £20.57. R Armstrong at Newmarket. ½l, Diamond Shoal (9-4) 4th 6 ran. 2m 45.38sec. NR: All Along, Time Charter.

4.15 (4.15) ROSEBERY HANDICAP (3-y-o: £4,386: 1m 4f)

TOM OKKER b c, by Tom Rolfe – Grass Court (Stedcrown Ltd) 8-9 ....W Carson (7-4 fav) 1
Wagoner ....J Mercer (5-2) 2
King of Greatness ....B Raymond (25-1) 3

TOTE: Win: £2.30. Places: £1.40, £2.10. DF: £2.80. CSF: £5.93. L Cumani at Newmarket. 5l, 1½, l. Princess Henham (11-2) 4th. 5 ran. 2m 47.87sec.

3.40 (3.41) STAFF INGHAM STAKES (2-y-o: £4,019: 6f)

HIT THE HEIGHTS b c, by Thatching – Hakima (Esal Commodities Ltd) 8-8 ....P Waldron (33-1) 1
King of Clubs ....Pat Eddery (1-2 fav) 2
Altdorfer ....S Cauthen (2-1) 3

TOTE: Win: £12.80. DF: £9.50. CSF: £48.25. G Lewis at Epsom 1½, l, 2½, l. Fly Free (33-1) 4th. 4 ran. 1m 14.29sec.

4.50 (4.51) NIGHTINGALL STAKES (3-y-o: maidens: £2,798: 1m 2f)

NESTOR gr c, by Nishapour – Meadow Rhapsody (Esal Commodities) 9-0 ....P Waldron (2-1) 1
Tugahwy ....A Clark (33-1) 2
Beeker ....J Mercer (9-4) 3

TOTE: Win: £4.20. Places: £2.20, £3.20. DF: £31.40. CSF: £29.48. G Lewis at Epsom. 1l, nk. Strike Lucky (13-8 fav). 5 ran. Tote DOUBLE: Be My Native, Tom Okker £36.10. TREBLE: Little Starchy, Hit The Heights, Nestor £85.80. JACKPOT: Not won.
PLACEPOT: £2,577.45 to a 50p stake.

State of Going: Epsom – soft. Haydock – heavy (inspection 7am). Catterick – soft; Stratford – Hurdle – good to soft, chase – soft. Tomorrow, Market Rasen – soft.

Epsom selections

By Michael Phillips

2.00 Indigo Jones. 2.35 Rangefinder. 3.10 Nauteas. 3.40 Star Of Ireland. 4.15 Decoy Duck. 4.50 Floating Petal.

By Our Newmarket Correspondent

2.35 Quite A Night. 3.10 Favoloso. 3.40 Depocfment. 4.15 Decoy Duck. 4.50 floating Petal.

Haydock Park

DRAW ADVANTAGE: Low numbers best

TOTE: DOUBLE 7.30, 8.30. TREBLE 7.0, 8.0, 9.0

6.30 ORMSKIRK AUCTION STAKES (2-y-o maidens: £1,976: 5f) (13 runners)

1 023 SHADES OF BLUE M Blanshard 9-0 ....A McGlone 5 9
2 CAMPS HEATH I Walker 8-11 ....P Colquhoun 11
3 QUAKER BRIDGE R Hollinshead 8-11 ....S Perks 2
5 TOPHAMS TAVERNS T Fairhurst 8-8 ....R P Elliott 4
7 02 C B M GIRL K Stone 8-5 ....M Birch 10
8 BALLASAYLE LAD R Hollinshead 8-2 ....Paul Eddery 3 5
12 0 GO BANANA'S K Ivory 8-2 ....P Young 7
13 0 IT'M FOR GALA N Bycroft 8-2 ....N Day 6
15 03 TRACK ROYAL P Calver 8-2 ....O Gray 8
17 00 VIEWERS CHOICE R Ward 8-2 ....N Howe 5
19 2 BOARDMANS DELIGHT J Berry 7-13 ....K Darley 13
25 00 MOON CHARTER K Brassey 7-13 ....B Crossley 1
26 322 WHO KNOWS THE GAME B McMahon 7-13 ....A Mackay 3 3

9-4 Boardman's Delight, 11-4 C B M Girl, 4 Shades Of Blue, 6 Who Knows The Game, 8 Moon Charter, 12 Track Royal, 16 others.

7.0 RED ROSE HANDICAP (Amateurs: £1,875: 1m 2f 131yd) (9)

6 00-00 HAVEN'S PRIDE W Charles 4-12-0 ....G Syrett 3 4
7 0-3001 PRINCE REVIEWER (CD) A W Jones 5-12-2 (5 ex) ....Diana Jones 7
9 00/ ESSEX D McCain 8-11-10 ....T Thomson Jones 3
12 3100 MISTER ACCORD (B) C Bell 3-11-5 ....Margaret Bell 8
13 1300 TARLETON P Rohan 6-11-3 ....Sara Lawrence 3 6
15 FORDEL R Thompson 6-10-13 ....R AP Harris 3 1
16 0400- ANOTHER SPECIAL W Francis 5-10-12 ....Sally Aston 3 2
17 0009- ALLAN WELLS A Watson 4-10-11 ....Jo Barry 9
18 PERSIAN FRIEND (B) M James 6-10-11 ....Miss Sharon James 3 5

10-11 Prince Reviewer, 3 Mister Accord, 6 Haven's Pride, 8 Tarleton, 12 Ilan Wells, 20 others.

7.30 BURTONWOOD BREWERY HANDICAP (3-y-o: £3,276: 7f 40yd) (7)

1 3-200 PRIVATE LABEL M Jarvis 9-7 ....B Raymond 5
3 11-03 JALMOOD THE STONE P Cole 8-11 .... – 7
6 0140 ANNAMOE BRAY J Wilson 8-2 ....W Ryan 7 4
7 2114 SOME YOYO C Bell 8-0 (6 ex) ....N Carlisle 3 6
9 0004 UNDER THE HAMMER (CD) D Arbuthnot 7-11 ....B Crossley 2
11 3100- RAHERE HUSSAR C Nelson 7-7 ....J Lowe 3
12 00-0 HENRY GEARY STEELS Denys Smith 7-7 ....M Fry 5 1

7-4 Anoma Bray, 5-2 Jamlood The Stone, 7-2 Some Yoyo, 5 Private Label, 12 Under The Hammer, 16 others.

8.0 DOMINION INSURANCE ANNIVERSARY HANDICAP (£2,637: 1m 6f) (8)

1 100-0 ANOTHER SAM (D) R Hannon 6-9-11 ....Pat Eddery 8
4 131-4 FESTAL SPIRIT (D) W Elsey 4-8-8 ....T Ives 7
8 13/04 SCOTTISH DREAM G Richards 5-7-8 ....A Mackay 3 2
9 3-303 JOHN FEATHER J W Watts 4-7-7 ....M Fry 5 3
10 130-2 MOONDUSTER C Thornton 4-7-7 ....A Nesbitt 3 6
11 203-0 QUADRILLION R Hollinshead 4-7-7 ....W Ryan 7 1
15 00-403 AULD LANG SYNE Mrs M Nesbitt 4-7-7 ....B Crossley 4
16 43/104 PALMERO K Stone 5-7-7 ....J Lowe 5

9-4 Another Sam, 100-30 Moonduster, 7-2 John Feather, 5 Festal Spirit, 8 Quadrillon, 12 Auld Lang Syne, 16 others.

8.30 OLDHAM STAKES (2-y-o: £1,676: 6f) (4)

1 1112 LAK LUSTRE R Fisher 9-7 ....B Raymond 1
3 12 MANDOWN LAD K Brassey 8-11 ....B Crossley 4
4 0 BALLYCRACKERS M H Easterby 8-6 ....M Birch 2
5 2 BELDALE CURRENT M Jarvis 8-6 ....Pat Eddery 3

13-8 Lak Lustre, 9-4 BeldaleCurrent, 7-2 Mandown Lad, 11-2 Ballycrackers.

9.0 BURNLEY STAKES (3-y-o maidens: £2,383: 1m 40yd) (15)

2 00 BROMWICH BOY L Barratt 9-0 ....S Keightley 7 2
3 20-00 COMEDY FAIR (B) M H Easterby 9-0 ....M Birch 9
11 0 MENALEE R Ward 9-0 ....C Ollivier 5 12
12 00 MOFFAT H Wharton 9-0 .... – 4
13 300-4 SACRED PATH J Bethell 9-0 ....J Matthias 3
15 03-42 THE HOUSE BUILDER M Jarvis 9-0 ....Pat Eddery 7
16 00 THROW ME OVER R Whitaker 9-0 ....P Young 1
18 4- VYNZ SUPREME W Haigh 9-0 ....T Ives 13
19 003-4 WALDRON HILL S Norton 9-0 .... – 10
21 BEV'S GIRL M James 8-11 ....J Purchase 7 15
25 00 GUNNER'S BELLE M Blanshard 8-11 ....A McGlone 5 8
27 0-0 LUCKY MADAM D H Jones 8-11 ....B Crossley 5
28 00 MISS RITZY L Barratt 8-11 ....D Dineley 6
30 000-0 MY MUSIC W Elsey 8-11 ....C Dwyer 14
32 00-40 ROSE OF THE NORTH J Wilson 8-11 ....Paul Eddery 3 11

5-2 Comedy Fair, 7-2 The House Builder, 4 Vynz Supreme, 6 Waldron Hill, 10 My Music, 14 others.

Haydock selections

By Our Racing Staff

6.30 Boardmans Delight. 7.0 Prince Reviewer. 7.30 Jalmood The Stone. 8.0 Another Sam. 8.30 Mandown Lad. 9.0 The House Builder.

By Our Newmarket Correspondent

7.30 Private Label. 8.30 Beldale Current. 9.0 The House Builder.

Catterick Bridge

Draw advantage: low numbers last

2.15 GILLING STAKES (Div I, 2-y-o maiden fillies: £690: 5f) (12 runners)

1 0 BASH-UM-BABY E Weymes 8-11 ....P Young 12
3 CIRCUS TRICK D Chapman ....D Nicholls 7
5 0 CONYGARTH HILL J Etherington 8-11 ....T Ives 9
10 0040 FOOLISH FLING H Blackshaw .... – 2
13 JESTERS PET R Whitaker 8-11 ....K Darley 6
18 0 LA MERCUREL M Lambert 8-11 ....L Charnock 11
27 RAPID SALLY M Easterby 8-11 ....K Hodgson 3
29 RIBBLE STAR W C Watts 8-11 .... – 4
30 RILIN N Chamberlain 8-11 ....M Fry 5
35 0 STARLIGHT LASS P Calver 8-11 ....O Gray 8
36 4 TIMINALA K Stone 8-11 ....C Dwyer 10
38 TROPICAL STORM .... – 1

6-4 Timinala, 4 Rapid Sally, 11-2 Conygarth Hill, 10 Foolish Fling, 16 Bash-Um-Baby, 25 others.

2.45 SCORPION HANDICAP (Selling: 6f) (13)

1 0/0-00 DHANTERAS G Lewis 5-9-10 ....G Sexton 1
3 0000 BIDDABLE W Elsey 4-9-7 ....T Ives 3
5 10-00 POKERFAYES (B) B McMahon 4-9-4 ....G Duffield 12
7 0-330 MRS BUZBY Miss S Hall 4-9-4 ....M Fry 5 11
8 00-00 TYPECAST (D) D Yeoman 4-9-3 ....M Beecroft 5 7
9 00-01 WHITEWALLS (CD) D Garraton 3-9-2 (7 ex) ....N Carlisle 3 5
11 000-0 BURN UP (C-D) P Asquith 4-8-1 ....K Darley 13
12 000-0 ULTRASONIC D Chapman 4-8-1 ....D Nicholls 9
13 404-4 AMANDA MARY (B) R Stubbs 5-9-0 .... – 6
15 04-00 NAUGHTY TWINKLE A Balding 4-8-0 ....J Balding 4
16 24-00 Song To Singo (B) J Etherington 3-8-13 ....M Wood 2
17 0000 BADACHRO BOY D Chapman 4-8-12 ....S Webster 8
19 340-0 BELROSE S Norton 4-8-12 ....C Ollivier 5 10

7-4 Whitewalls, 7-2 Dhanteras, 7 Mrs Buzby, 10 Badachro Boy, 14 Naughty Twinkle, 16 Song To Singo, 25 others.

3.15 CROFT HANDICAP (3-y-o: £1,031: 1m 5f 180yd) (8)

2 01-12 FINALE SEPT (B) M H Easterby 9-7 ....K Hodgson 3 8
4 0-003 MADAME MIM (B) B Hanbury 9-2 ....P Young 5
5 0001 KATIE BOURNE (C) B Hanbury 9-2 ....C Dwyer 1
6 0-213 JAY ELLE THAW T Fairhurst 8-8 ....A Mackay 3 4
7 0-033 DINGLE BELLE W Wharton 8-7 ....G Duffield 7
8 110-0 ROSE GLOW J FitzGerald 8-5 ....M Wood 2
10 2000- MAWATEA Mrs A Cousins 7-12 ....A Nesbitt 3 6
11 0000 TABASCO ROYAL Capt J Wilson 7-7 ....W Ryan 7 3

2 Finale Sept, 3 Jay Elle Thaw, 5 Dingle Belle, 7 Katie Bourne, 12 Rose Glow, 20 others.

3.45 MERRYBENT STAKES (3-y-o fillies: £690: 7f) (16)

4 4-442 BASICALLY BRIGHT B Hills 8-11 ....K Willey 10
5 3-430 CAP D'AZURE S Norton 8-11 ....C Oliver 5 14
6 00 CORALS SECRET J Jefferson 8-11 ....M Wood 6
7 000- EXPRESS MISS D GARRATON 8-11 ....N Carlisle 3 16
9 20-20 FOR YOUR EYES (B) P Walwyn 8-11 ....N Howe 5 15
10 0 FULL CIRCLE H Candy 8-11 ....P Robinson 9
11 40-40 GEM-MAY T Fairhurst 8-11 ....S Webster 3
12 00 GOESWELL G Lewis 8-11 ....G Sexton 7
16 002-4 LADY SIAN Denys Smith 8-11 ....M Fry 5 11
19 003-0 LUCY PLATTER M W Easterby 8-11 ....K Hodgson 3 8
22 00 PENNINE PRINCESS W Wharton 8-11 ....R Wigham 2
24 030-2 REDALCO J Winter 8-11 ....G Duffield 5
25 230-0 REDGRAVE CREATIVE R Whitaker 8-11 ....S Perks 12
27 04-30 SERENA MARIA M McCormack 8-11 ....R Street 13
29 SKEWHIFF R Whitaker 8-11 ....P Young 4
31 020-0 UNBEKNOWN (B) R Woodhouse 8-11 ....J Lowe 1

13-8 Basically Bright, 7-2 Redalco, 8 For Your Eyes, 9 Serena Maria, 12 Cap D'Azure, 20 Lucy Platter, 25 others.

4.15 JERVAULX HANDICAP (3-y-o: 5f) (11)

1 12-00 ZENYATTA (D) Denys Smith 9-7 ....M Fry 5 2
3 01 Jo-Andrew (D) D Chapman 9-4 ....D Nicholls 10
5 300-0 CECIL (D) D Chapman 9-4 ....R Brown 7 11
8 0-340 FRIENDLY BOBBY (CD) T Fairhurst 8-11 ....M Beecroft 5 9
17 4430 JIMMY RAINE (B) T Barron 8-2 ....S Webster 5
18 00-40 REAL COOL (B) P Asquith 7-13 ....K Darley 8
20 300-0 MERRY TASSE (D) W Bentley 7-13 .... – 4
21 2420- GODOLPHIN M W Easterby 7-12 ....L Charnock 7
23 0040- CELTIC BIRD (D) A Balding 7-11 ....M Fozzard 7 6
26 2120 Rapid Lady (D) Mrs M Nesbitt 7-7 ....S Griffiths 7 1
27 0000- Lord Johnston R Whitaker 7-7 ....W Ryan 7 3

11-8 Jo Andrew, 5 Friendly Bobby, 7 Rapid Lady, 10 Jimmy Raine, 12 Zenyatta, 14 Real Cool, 20 others.

4.45 SCOTCH CORNER STAKES. (£690: 1m 4f 40yd) (6)

4 8/0- SHEINEKEN E Weymes 6-8-9 ....P Young 4
8 0/ LAVENHAM BLUE Capt J Wilson 5-8-6 ....C Dwyer 1
9 00 MISS INIGO M McCormack 4-8-6 ....R Street 6
10 00 RIGTON CORNER r Whitaker 4-8-6 ....D Gibson 2
16 60- HABANNE J Etherington 3-8-6 ....M Wood 3
19 0 LOVE OF A GUNNER S Norton 3-8-6 ....J Lowe 5

9-4 Love Of A Gunner, 7-2 Rheinekin, 9-2 Miss Inigo, 8 Habana, 9 Rigton Corner, 10 Lavenham Blue.

5.15 GILLING STAKES (Div II: 2-y-o maidens: £690: 5f) (12)

2 CHRONICLE LADY J Jefferson 8-11 ....M Wood 5
6 COTTAM ELITE M W Easterby 8-11 ....J Skilling 12
7 COUTURE LEG AFFAIR R Woodhouse 8-11 ....J Lowe 1
8 FAIR EMMA P Rohan 8-11 ....D Letherby 10
11 HALCYON HOURS H Blackshaw 8-11 .... – 2
18 LITTLE ANGEL W Wharton 8-11 ....R Wigham 4
19 02 NARKHAM GIRL R Thompson 8-11 ....S Morris 5 9
20 32 MENDICK ADVENTURE Denys Smith 8-11 ....T Ives 7
22 2 MYSTERY SHIP M Usher 8-11 .... – 3
23 44 NIGHT OF WIND M McCormack 8-11 ....R Street 8
24 OAK POOL N Tinkler 8-11 .... – 11
33 SICAMBRE PRINCESS A Jarvis 8-11 ....J Murray 6

7-4 Night Of Wind, 9-2 Mendick Adventure, 6 Mystery Ship, 8 Markham Girl, 10 Sicambre Princess, 16 others.

Catterick selections

By Racing Staff

2.15 Timinala. 2.45 Belrose. 3.15 Rose Glow. 3.45 Basically Bright. 4.15 Jo-Andrew. 4.45 Love Of a Gunner. 5.15 Mystery Ship.

By Our Newmarket Correspondent

2.15 Tropical Storm. 3.45 Redalco.

● Robert Weaver, injured in a fall at Edinburgh on May 23, resumes riding at Haydock tomorrow, when he partners equanaid for Charlie Nelson, the Lambourn trainer, in the Stones Best Bitter Handicap.

● Royal Heroine has been well backed for the Oaks with Hills and is now 4-1 from 9-2. The firm have also had support for Fields Of Spring, now 20-1 from 40-1 and Cormorant Wood 10-1 from 14-1.

● The Yorkshire trainer Bill Stubbs has booked the apprentice Joey Brown for Hagen's Holly in tomorrow's oaks.

EQUESTRIANISM

Dressage rehearsal before Aachen

St James's second cup

Car Buyer's Guide

General

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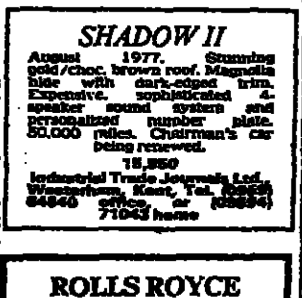
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Motoring by Clifford Webb

Italian maestros follow BL's example

Alfa Romeo, the state-owned Italian car manufacturer, has much in common with our own BL. It is a regular loss maker, is in the early stages of a long delayed replacement of its entire model range, and has turned to a Japanese motor group for help to do it.

If BL's deal with Honda for the Triumph Acclaim was unpopular with European car makers, Alfa's joint venture with Nissan to produce a Japanese-bodied car with Alfa mechanical parts had Fiat positively foaming at the mouth. Fiat had tried unsuccessfully to prevent the Acclaim being sold in Italy by insisting that it was a Japanese car and therefore subject to the rigid quota restrictions imposed unilaterally by Italy 10 years ago.

That a state-subsidized Italian company should now be "selling the past" to the Japanese was unthinkable and one after another Fiat bosses used every branch of the media to say so.

That was last year and in the intervening period things have calmed down quite a bit. The Arna, as the new Italo-Japanese car is at present known, is not going to be produced in large numbers because the Italian Government has stepped in and set a limit of 60,000 a year. It is being assembled at the same plant, Pomigliano d'Arco near Naples, as the existing Alfasud models and a promising new car launched today, the Alfa 33.

The Alfa 33 has tended to be overshadowed by the more controversial Arna but is in fact more important to Alfa's recovery hopes. It will account for about 100,000 of Pomigliano's capacity of 180,000 cars a year and, according to Signor Ettore Massacesi, president of Alfa Romeo, will push his company past its break-even target of 240,000 cars a year by early next year.

The Alfasud range will be phased out by the middle of next year and I for one will be sorry to see the end of an exciting small car which has been bedevilled by the appalling strike record, low productivity and bad workmanship at Pomigliano.

Its eventual replacement, the Alfa 33, fits into the important small-medium sector of the market in a way that the Alfasud never did. It was always too cramped for the young family man who loved its sports car performance but sighed at its lack of space and comfort. The Alfa 33 is only 5 cm longer but with the benefit of modern design techniques has a much improved interior layout.

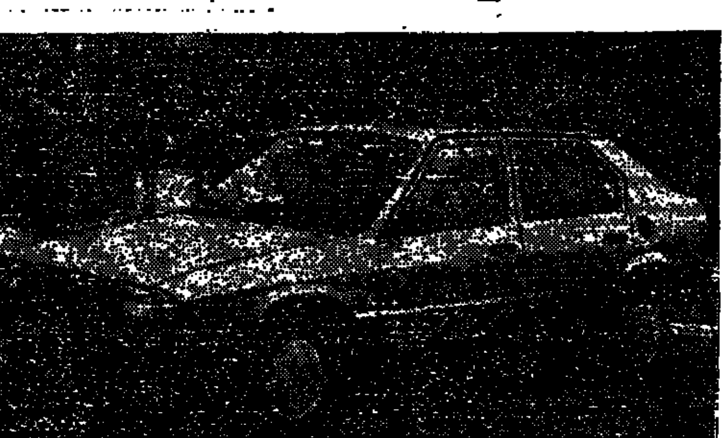
Of equal importance to the family is the luggage-carrying capacity and, by kinking the hatchback door to give it a boot-like projection, it can cope with 14 cu ft of baggage or 42 cu ft with the rear seats folded.

Three versions are being sold here, a 1.3 litre at £5,950, a 1.5 at £6,000 and the top of the range Gold Cloverleaf, which is only a more lavishly equipped 1.5 and in my view hardly worth the extra £590.

The flat-four Boxer engine first seen in Alfasud needs no introduction to Alfa enthusiasts. It is one of the most impressive engines of the past 10 years, delivering its power with a lovely throbbing note, and is seemingly unburstable. Allied to one of the best five-speed gearboxes around it cries out to be driven with Italian-like zeal for high revs and fast changes.

On a wet and busy test route just north of Venice it was impossible to push the Alpha 33 to the limit, but what it was called upon to do it did well. As my test companion said more than once: "It feels like a driver's car".





The Alfa 33: important role to play

If, as Alfa claim, the workers at Pomigliano have indeed followed the same route as those at BL's Cowley and Longbridge plants and made significant improvements in reliability and quality the Alfa 33 could mark the start of the long climb back by one of the most respected names in the motor industry.

Volvo 240 GLT

Volvos dominate the big estate car market in Britain. They account for nearly one in three of all luxury estates bought here. Their nearest rivals, Peugeot's 505 and Ford's Granada, trail behind with about one in ten.

Yet to the non-Volvo driver their popularity is a never-ending mystery. Despite facelifts which have softened their blunt frontal appearence Volvo estates remain chunky, slab-sided work-a-day vehicles. By no stretch of the imagination can they be described as exciting or even good looking.

But to the immensely loyal Volvo owner they are in a league of their own. He or she - a lot of women drive the big Volvos - is even prepared to defend their appearance. A local greengrocer now on his umpteenth Volvo estate became quite poetical. "It oozes strength with symmetry," he said.

The biggest-selling model is the 240 which comes in four versions, starting with the basic 2.1 litre, four-cylinder engine costing £8,157 and ending with the 240 GLT powered by a 2.3 litre fuel-injected unit producing a surprising 136 bhp at 5,500 rpm. With tinted glass, electric front windows and outside mirrors, alloy wheels, central locking and the choice of leather or velour interiors, it costs £10,453.

I chose the latter because I wanted to see how it compared with other estates, in particular with Mercedes's increasingly popular range which begins with the under-powered 2-litre 200T at £9,900, but is more directly comparable with the 2.3 litre 230TE at £12,400.

Let me confess immediately that the Mercedes 230TE is one of my favourite long-distance load carriers. But for a saving of about £2,000 the Volvo 240 GLT must be considered by anyone contemplating buying the Mercedes.

One factor is immediately in favour of the Volvo. It is a very quick motor car accelerating from 0-60 mph in only 10 secs compared with the Mercedes's 12 secs. Top speeds are almost identical at around 112 mph.

I was particularly impressed with the handling of the Volvo which belies its tank-like appearance and can be thrown about like a car half its size and weight. The urge to drive it hard is enhanced by the sensible choice of gear ratios. Unlike many of the latest wide-ratio five-speed gearboxes Volvo have retained a close-ratio four-speeder plus the Laycock overdrive system which is activated by a button on the top of the gear lever.

Vital Statistics
Model: Volvo 240 GLT
Price: £10,453
Engine: 2316 cc, 4 cylinder, fuel injected
Performance: Max speed 111.8 mph, 0-60 mph 10 secs
Official Consumption: Urban 18 mpg, 56 mph 37.2 mpg, 75 mph 27.7 mpg
Length: 15.7 ft
Insurance: Group 7

Volvo must be one of the last manufacturers to use the Laycock overdrive, featured for so many years on the old Triumph 2000 range. But for my money it makes a perfect compliment to the Volvo box. The real test of any gearbox is how often you find yourself in the wrong gear. With the Volvo, seldom. Where it does fall down, however, is the noise level. While the Mercedes whispers along at speeds well above the British maximum the Volvo is let down by engine and wind noise. Both are intrusive and disturbing on a long journey. It is also about two miles a gallon more thirsty than the German car.

The Volvo 240 GLT: "strength with symmetry"

Mercedes

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1982 (model) 200 T, Manilla beige, sunroof, e/windows, r/cass, 16,000m. £8,750
1980 (V) 230 C, Met. Anthracite, cream cloth, ESR, r/cass, alloys, 32,000m. £8,950
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280 SLC (X)
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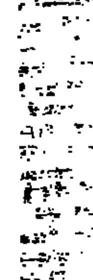
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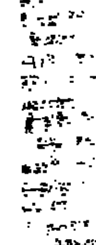
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Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness! – Isaiah 5: 20.

BIRTHS

ASHBROOK – CASSELMAN. On 1st June in Boston, Massachusetts, to Susan and Fritz, a second son.

BURN. On the 1st June, in Aberdeen, to Amanda (née Leslie) and Lorimer, a daughter, (Rebecca Barbara).

CLARK. On May 31st, 1983, at the John Radcliffe Hospital, Oxford to Rosie and Nick, a daughter.

COGBILL – On 30th May, to Vivienne (née Dews) and Alan of Farthing Cottage, Coulsdon – a daughter, Eleanor Louise, with gratitude to all concerned at Mayday and Whittington Hospital.

COOPER on June 2nd, at The John Radcliffe Hospital, Oxford, to Antonya (née James) and Alastair, a daughter ...

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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WILL LINDA ELIZABETH HOBSON – born in Glasgow 1960 or anyone knowing her present whereabouts, please contact G. Hobson, 10 Kings Park Avenue, Glasgow G44.

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HAPPY BIRTHDAY Lone Ranger. 2 days late. I love you.

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NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Creditors of the above-named COMPANY are required on or before the Thirty First day of July 1983, to send their names and addresses and the particulars of their debts or claims, and the names and addresses of their Solicitors if any, to John T Powell of Shelley House, 3 Noble Street, London EC2V 7DQ the Liquidator of the said Company, and, if so required by notice in writing from the said Liquidator, are by their Solicitors, or personally, to come in and prove their said debts or claims at such time and place as shall be specified in such notice, or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debts are proved.

Dated this 25th day of May 1983
J.F. POWELL

SOUTHGATE MOTORS (LONDON) LIMITED

Notice is hereby given pursuant to section 293 of the Companies Act, 1948, that a Meeting of the creditors of the above-named Company will be held at the offices of Leonard Curtis & Co, situated at 3/4 Bentinck Street, London W1A 3BA on Friday the 10th day of June 1983 at 12 o'clock midday for the purposes provided for in sections 294 and 295. Dated the 26th day of May 1983. I. Ferguson, Director.

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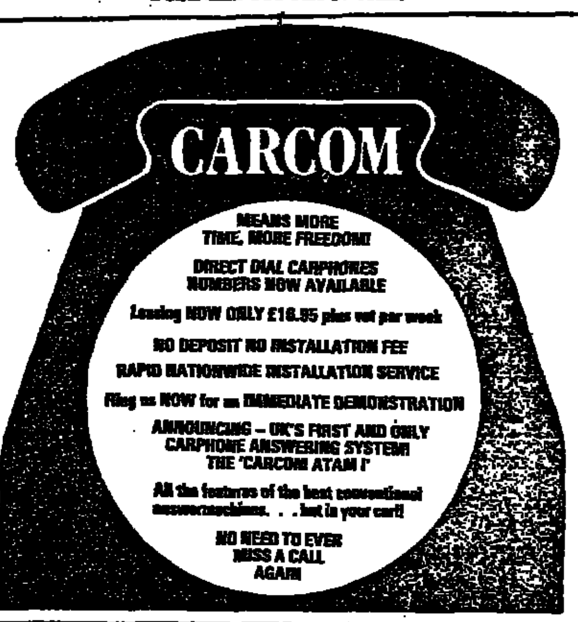
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هكذا من الاصل

Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Davalle

BBC 1

6.00 Ceefax AM: News in digest form and sport, traffic and weather information – all of which can be received whether you have a teletext set or not.

6.30 Breakfast Time: Today's presenters (of political items and otherwise) Selina Scott, Nick Ross and David Coss. Includes news on the hour and half-hour; and half-hour regional news at 6.45, 7.15, 7.45 and 8.15; Sport at 6.42, 7.18 and 8.18; Keep fit spot between 6.45 and 7.00; Gardening (7.30-7.45) Morning Papers reviewed (7.32 and 8.32). Horoscope (8.30 – 45) Food and Cookery item (8.45-9.00).

9.05 Election Call: Your chance to dial 01-580 4411 and speak to Roy Jenkins of the SDP-Liberal Alliance. Sir Robin Day will be on hand to ensure that callers and Mr Jenkins get a fair hearing. 10.00 Closedown.

12.30 News After Noon: 1.02 Financial Report.

1.05 Our Undersea World: Torrey Canyon Today. Fascinating film showing what has happened to the supertanker since she was sent to the seabed 16 years ago after polluting the coastline of south-west England; 1.35 Postman Pat; 1.50 Hansel and Gretel: American actors and singers provide the voices for the puppets in this charming film of the fairy story, which Humperdinck turned into an opera.

3.00 Fred Dibnah, Steeplejack: Yet another chance to see Don Howarth's award-winning film about the master collapser of tall chimney stacks.

3.45 Play School (see BBC 2, 10.30am); 4.20 The New Scooby-Doo cartoon; 4.40 Make 'em Laugh: The Hollywood comedies of the silent comedian Larry Semon who was also a great stuntman.

5.00 Newsround Extra: with John Craven and Paul McDowell; 5.10 Hunter's Gold: drama serial, set in the New Zealand goldfields in the last century.

5.40 News: 6.00 Party Election Broadcast (Ecology Party) 6.05 South East at Six; 6.30 Nationwide: includes an interview with the American singer and actor Dean Martin.

7.00 The Good Life: Double trouble for the Leadbetters. Margo (Penelope Keith) has difficulty with her lines in The Sound of Music, and Jerry (Paul Eddington) has been given a month's notice (r).

7.30 Odd One Out: the Paul Daniels quiz show. Five new contestants challenge last week's winner.

8.00 The Time of Your Life: Patrick Lichfield, the photographer, explains why a day in October 1982 became a turning point in his life. Also looking back on that year are Lionel Blair, the Madison Girls and Nigel Dempster.

8.30 Emery: Jack of Diamonds. Comedy thriller starring the late Dick Emery as a Jewish private-eye (see Choice).

9.00 Party Election Broadcast: by the Conservative Party.

9.05 News: and Campaign Report.

9.45 Cagney and Lacey: Police thriller. Detective Izbecki is taken hostage when his cover is broken during the investigation of a dangerous gang of car thieves.

10.35 A Family Band: Roy Castle introduces the music-making Cummings family who live in London: 11.05 News.

11.05 Film; False Witness (1970). Thriller with George Kennedy as the insurance investigator whose plan to provide for his family after his death, goes seriously wrong. With Anne Jackson and Eli Wallach. Director: Richard A Colla. Ends at 12.55.

TV-am

6.25 Good Morning Britain. Includes news at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 9.00; Cartoon at 6.50; Newspapers review at 7.05; Competition at 7.35 and 8.25; Election special (with Robert Kee) at 7.30; Sport at 6.45 and 7.45; Pop Video, at 7.55; TV spot at 8.35; Consumer guide at 8.40; Closedown at 9.25.

ITV/LONDON

9.30 Sesame Street: with The Muppets. 10.30 The Glory of the Garden: James Mason is the narrator in this film about the famous woodland garden of Exbury, which began life under the hand of Lionel de Rothschild just after the First World War. Now, his son, Edmund, is our guide through the gardens; 11.30 Film Fun: Warner Brothers cartoons.

12.00 Topper's Tales: with the late Julian Orchard (r); 12.10 Rainbow: another one for the toddlers; 12.30 Do It Herself: Advice for women on how to use a steam machine to strip wallpaper. And how to bring the expert's touch to those painting jobs around the house.

1.00 News; 1.20 Thames area news; 1.30 About Britain: Closer to Home. Scots and descendants of Scots, living in the US, stage their own Highland games in North Carolina.

2.00 Night Flight: Story of the pioneers of mail delivery by air, with Trevor Howard.

2.30 Racing from Epsom: Three more eve-of-the-Oaks races – the 2.35, 3.10 and 3.40.

4.00 Children's ITV: Rainbow (r); 4.20 Heathcliffe Henry: cartoon; 4.25 Animals in Action: Ends of the Earth. Wildlife film, shot at both North and South Poles. The guide is the wildlife painter Keith Shackleton; 4.50 Freetime: How to make new bicycles from old. Also, more about the European cruise of pupils from a Highworth comprehensive school; 5.15 Make Me Laugh: Chuckle-raising contest, with Joan Sims as guest and Bernie Winters as MC.

5.45 News; 6.00 Election Broadcast (Ecology Party). 6.05 The 6 o'Clock Show: Live and lively news programme, with Michael Aspel and Janet Street-Porter.

7.00 Family Fortunes: The Scott-Allens from Fareham, Hampshire versus the Almonds from Preston. With Bob Monkhouse.

7.30 Hallelujah! Comedy series with a Salvation Army setting, starring Thora Hird. Tonight, many a slip with a mobile canteen.

8.00 Survival Special: Ghosts of Cape Horn. Jason Roberds is the narrator in this documentary about the many ships and men that perished off Cape Horn. These were the tall ships, the square-riggers. Now, attempts are being made to rescue and preserve some of the most important wrecks before the seas finally claim them. (See Choice).

9.00 Party Election Broadcast: by the conservative party.

9.05 The Gentle Touch: Detective Inspector Maggie Forbes (Jill Gascoine) becomes a decoy after a rapist attacks three girls (r).

10.05 News from ITN.

10.45 Shades of Darkness: The Intercessor. Alan Plater's dramatization of May Sinclair's tale of the supernatural, stars John Duttine as the book researcher who, assured that the farmhouse where he does his work is children-free, keeps hearing the crying of a child.

11.45 9 to 5: Office life comedy. With Rita Moreno and Jean Marsh.

12.15 Close: Sian Phillips reads from John Galt's Annals of the Parish.

Shipwreck from the Ghosts of Cape Horn: ITV 8.00pm.

● GHOSTS OF CAPE HORN (ITV, 8.00pm) is not at all the kind of film you would expect from Anglia Television's World of Survival team. There is not an animal, bird or fish in sight and not a whiff of an ecological crisis. Yet, it is very much about survival: the substantial bones of dead wooden ships that have fetched up in quiet graveyards along the coastline of the Falkland Islands after losing out to the malevolence of wind and wave. These were the proud square-riggers, with their sails full-bellied and their timbers creaking, and tonight's film includes some marvellous archive footage of these graceful giants and the men who sailed in them around the treacherous tip of South America. It is all too easy to understand why Sir Peter Scott, introducing Ghosts

CHOICE

of Cape Horn, unconsciously (or did he intend it?) uses the personal pronoun "who" in referring to these ships of yesteryear. To see them being fashioned from the lately-dead timber of the forests is to see the beginning of a kind of resurrection. Once launched on the high seas, these timbers really do give the impression of living again.

● Inevitably an air of sadness hangs over JACK OF DIAMONDS (BBC 1, 8.30pm) for the six episodes that make up this comedy thriller were to see Dick Emery's final contributions to the genre of TV comedy, the medium in which he excelled. But it only hindsight that makes for the sadness; there is none in the series itself. Mr Emery's delight in slipping in and out of many skins has suffered no diminution.

● It is a remarkably fine day for classical and choral music on Radio 3, with Ozawa conducting the Berlin Phil in the Ravel Piano Concerto in G (soloist Martha Argerich) shortly after 12.10pm, and (at 1.20) in Beethoven's Symphony No 7; Choral Evensong comes from St Thomas Church, Fifth Avenue, in New York, at 4.00; and there are the two Brahms piano concertos, played by the LSO, conducted by Andre Previn, with Vladimir Ashkenazy as soloist. You can hear the No 1 at 8.00 and the No 2 at 9.15.

● A reminder: if you missed last Sunday's denouement of Collins's THE MOONSTONE, all is not lost. There is another chance to hear the final episode on Radio 4, 3.02

BBC 2

6.05 Open University (until 8.10) Maths Modelling: bycycles; 6.30 Organic Chemistry; 6.55 Polymer Production; 7.20 Statistics Sampling; 7.45 Computing: Integer Programming.

10.30 Play School: the traditional story The House that Jack Built (also on BBC1, at 3.55pm); Closedown at 10.55.

5.10 The Civilisation of the Crowd: Changes in working-class and middle-class and middle-class life in Britain at the turn of the century, as captured on film. An Open University film (r).

5.35 Weekend Outlook: An appetizer for the weekend's viewing for Open University students. The programmes include Guernica: the Making of a Myth.

5.40 Film: Kim (1951) Spectacular Hollywood version of the Rudyard Kipling story of the friendship between an Afghan horsedealer (Errol Flynn, by all that's wonderful) and a young British orphan (Dean Stockwell). The setting is India during the British Raj. Co-starring Paul Lukas in the key role of the Lama. Robert Douglas and Thomas Gomez. Directed by Victor Saville.

7.30 Party Election Broadcast: by the Conservative Party; 7.40 Cartoon: Metamorphosis. Made in Yugoslavia.

7.50 Did You See. . . ? The programmes to be discussed tonight are Private Lives (BBC 2), Elizabeth – the First Thirty Years (BBC1) and No Excuses (Central). The panel: Roy Plomley, Sandie Shaw and Antonia Holden. In the chair: Bob Wellings.

8.35 Gardeners' World: The year-round interesting things in the Moelfre, North Wales, garden developed by David and Pamela Williams. Plus hints on useful ferns to grow in your own garden.

9.00 Entertainment USA: The final film in the show business series in which Jonathan King has been reporting from the United States. Tonight's report comes from New York.

9.30 Out on the Floor: Debbie Horsfield's first play for television is about three Wigan teenagers (played by Sally Baxter, Amanda Noar and Natalie Forbes) and their experiences at an unlicensed/disco hall. What begins as an evening of fun develops into something very different. Directed by Derek Lister.

10.05 Pete Sayers' Electric Music Show: The guest tonight, and for the next four Friday nights, is Diana Somers'. The special guest tonight is Steve Somer' Western Boogie Band.

10.40 Newsnight: Featuring Campaign 83 – all the day's major happenings at the hustings.

11.40 The Old Grey Whistle Test: The studio guests are Nick Love and Roman Holiday. Ends at 12.45am.

CHANNEL 4

5.00 Countdown: The words and numbers contest.

5.30 The Election 500: Voters in the North-West debate the welfare state. In the studio are Dr Digby Anderson, Director of the Social Affairs Unit, and Dr Tessa Blackstone, Deputy Education Officer for the Inner London Education Authority. The chairman is Gus Macdonald. The follow-up programme can be seen tonight at 11.20

6.30 Switch: The pop music show. Tonight's special guests are Imagination and Main-T-Possee. Plus the latest videos.

7.00 Channel Four News.

7.30 The Friday Alternative: The Ecology Party says it is not getting enough TV time. And is unemployment good for you?

8.00 What a Picture!: The final film in the series in which John Hedgecoe, Professor of Photography at the Royal College of Art in London, has been showing photographers, skilled and unskilled, how to improve their pictures.

8.30 Jack London's Tales of the Klondike: Love of Life. Tonight's story about the tough life on Canada's North-West Frontier is about a gold prospector (Doug McGrath) who, after being deserted by his partner, is involved in a life-or-death struggle.

9.30 Capstick Capers: Love is the theme of tonight's edition of this comedy series starring Tony Capstick. His special guests are the singer Patti Boulaye and the flamenco guitarist Ian Maud.

10.00 Cheers: Comedy series set in a Boston saloon bar: Sam and some of his regular customers plan to trap a confidence trickster by playing him in a game of poker.

10.30 Party Election Broadcast: by the Conservative Party.

10.35 Kill or Cure? Compensation – a Penny for Your Pain. One pharmaceutical company in Britain has launched its own scheme for the compensation of people who suffer injuries through the use of drugs. But, the programme asks, is it right that any company should act both as judge and jury in its own cause? It examines ways in which drugs victims can receive adequate recompense for their ruined lives, and we hear some of the experiences of victims.

11.20 The Election 500: The welfare state is discussed by Gwyneth Dunwoody (Labour), Tom McNally (Alliance) and Kenneth Clarke (Conservative). See entry for 5.30

12.05 Film: The Face at the Window (1939*) Tod Slaughter, master of over-acting, stars in this barnstorming thriller about a killer who terrorises Paris in the 1880s. With Marjorie Taylor. Director: George King. Ends at 1.15am

Radio 4

6.00 News Briefing.
6.10 Farming Today. 6.25 Shipping Forecast.
6.30 Today, including 6.45 Prayer for the Day. 6.55, 7.55 Weather. 7.00, 8.00 Today's News. 7.25, 8.25 Sport. 7.30, 8.30 News Headlines. 7.45 Thought for the Day. Your Letters.
8.47 Party Election Broadcast by the SDP/Liberal Alliance. 8.57 Weather; Travel.
9.00 News.
9.05 Election Call: 01-580 4411 (lines open from 8.00 am).
10.00 News.
10.02 International Assignment.
10.30 Morning Story: "Old Man of the Moor" by George Beardmore.
10.45 Daily Service.†
11.00 News, Travel.
11.03 Orkney: The Crossroads beyond the Edge of the World. A look at settlers on Orkney through the ages.
11.48 Bird of the Week. The red grouse and the partridge.
12.00 News.
12.02 You and Yours.
12.27 My Music.† Musical quiz. 12.55 Weather; Travel.
1.00 The World at One: News.
1.40 The Archers. 1.55 Shipping.
2.00 News.
2.02 Woman's Hour from Manchester.
3.00 News.
3.02 Moonstone.† Concluding a radio dramatization of the book by Wilkie Collins.
4.00 News.
4.02 Just After Four: Trekking in the Himalayas.
4.10 We can do that. Employment in the 80s. Six programmes: (4) "People Not Statistics".
4.40 Story Time: "The Breaker" by Kit Denton (8).
5.00 PM: News Magazine. 5.50 Shipping Forecast. 5.55 Weather; Programme News.
6.00 The Six O'Clock News.
6.30 Going Places: The world of travel and transport.
7.00 News.
7.05 The Archers.
7.20 Pick of the Week.† Programme highlights.
8.10 Profile. A personal portrait.
8.30 Any Questions? from Halesowen, West Midlands.
9.15 Letter from America by Alistair Cooke.
9.30 Kaleidoscope. Arts magazine. 9.59 Weather.
10.00 The World Tonight: News.
10.35 Injury Time.† A sort of revue . . .
11.00 A Book at Bedtime: "The Turnaround" by Vladimir Volkoff (5).
11.15 The Financial World Tonight.
11.30 Election Platform.
12.00 News; Weather.
12.15 Shipping Forecast; Inshore Forecast. ENGLAND: VHF as above except: 6.25-6.30am Weather; Travel. 1.55-2.00pm Listening Corner. 5.50-5.55 PM (continued). 11.00-12.00 Study on 4.

Radio 3

6.55 Weather.
7.0 News.
7.5 Morning Concert Poulenc, Ravel, Francaix, Saint-Saens records †.
8.0 News.
8.5 Morning Concert (continued) Granados orch. Halffter, Albeniz, Turina; records.
9.0 News.
9.05 This Week's Composer Handel.
10.0 Dvorak Paino Trio Op. 90 (Dunky) †.
11.35 Grieg and Dvorak Song recital †.
12.10 Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra Concert. Part 1: Frank Michael Beyer, Ravel.
1.0 News.
1.5 Six Continents.
1.20 Berlin PO Part 2: Beethoven. †.
2.5 Amphion –String Quartet Haydn, Mozart, Wolf. †.
3.0 The British Symphony Wesley, Bax. †.
4.0 Chorla Evensong from St Thomas Church Fifth Avenue, New York †.
4.55 News.
5.0 Mainly for Pleasure †.
6.30 Music for Guitar Jan Arpin, Petr Eben, Petr Fiala. †.
7.0 Songs by Britten and Douglas Young †.
7.40 Rider of The Small Apocalypse Jan Keok-Paszkowski reflects on the literary career of dissident novelist Tadeusz Konwicki †.
8.0 The Brahms Piano Condertos direct from the Royal Festival Hall, London Played by Vladimir Ashkenazy. Part 1: Concerto No 1.
8.55 Poetry Now. New poems.
9.15 Brahms Concerto No2 †.
10.10 The Golden Cockerel by Pushikin †.
10.20 Trio Mobile Arne Nordheim †.
10.45 The English Madrigal Thomas Weelkes (Madrigals of 5 and 6 parts, 1600) †.
11.15 News.
VHF Only – Open University: 6.15am-6.55 Haydn's Symphonic Development.

Radio 2

5.00am Ken Bruce.† 7.30 Terry Wogan.† 10.00 Jimmy Young.† 12.00pm Music While You Work.† 12.30 Gloria Hunniford including 2.02 Sports Desk.† 2.30 Party Election Broadcast by the Conservative Party. 2.35 Ed Stewart including 3.02 Sports Desk.† 4.00 David Hamilton including 4.02, 5.30 Sports Desk.† 6.00 John Dunn including 6.45 Sport and Classified Results (mf only). 7.28 cricket.† 7.30 Take Your Partners.† 8.15 Friday Night Is Music Night.† 9.30 20th Century Troubadour. 9.57 Sports Desk.† 10.00 Castle's On the Air 10.30 Racing Desk. 10.30 Brian Matthew presents Round Midnight (stereo from midnight). 1.00am Night Owls.† 2.00 Bill Rennells presents You and the Night and the Music. 3.30-5.00 International Rugby Union. The First test: New Zealand v British Isles, from Lancaster Park, Christchurch.

Radio 1

6.00am Adrian John. 7.00 Mike Read. 9.00 Simon Bates. 11.30 Andy Peebles, including 12.30 Newsbeat. 2.00pm Steve Wright. 4.30 Peter Powell's Select-A-Disc. 5.30 Newsbeat. 5.45 Roundtable. 7.00 Andy Peebles. 10.00 The Friday Rock Show.† 12.00 midnight Close

VHF Radios 1 and 2: 5.00 am With Radio 2. 10.00 pm With Radio 1. 12.00-5.00 am With Radio 2. 3.30-5.00am Bill Rennells with You and the Night and the Music.

World Service

6.00 Newsdesk. 6.30 The Art of Daniel Barenboim. 7.00 World News. 7.09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary. 7.30 Sing, Sing, Sing. 7.45 Merchant Navy Programme. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Reflections. 8.15 Parade. 8.30 Thirty Minute Theatre. 9.00 World News. 9.09 Review of the British Press. 9.15 The World Today. 9.30 Financial News. 9.40 Look Ahead. 9.45 Album Time. 10.15 Merchant Navy Programme. 11.00 World News. 11.09 About Britain. 11.15 In the Meantime. 11.25 Ulster Newsletter. 11.30 Meridian. 12.00 Radio Newsreel. 12.15 Jazz for the Asking. 12.45 Sports Roundup. 1.00 World News. 1.09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary. 1.09 With Great Pleasure. 2.15 Letterbox. 2.30 The Art of Daniel Barenboim. 3.00 Radio Newsreel. 3.15 Outlook. 4.00 World Service. 4.09 Commentary. 4.15 Science in Action. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary. 8.30 Thirty Minute Theatre. 9.00 Network UK. 9.15 Music Now. 9.45 What the Foreigner Saw. 10.00 World News. 10.09 The World Today. 10.25 Book Choice. 10.30 Financial News. 10.40 Reflections. 10.45 Sports Roundup. 11.00 World News. 11.15 From the Weeklies. 11.30 In Trust for the Nation. 12.00 World News. 12.09 News About Britain. 12.15 Radio Newsreel. 12.30 About Britain. 12.45 Sarah and Company. 1.15 Outlook: News Summary. 1.45 Love and Mr Lewisham. 2.00 World News. 2.09 Review of the British Press. 2.15 Network UK. 2.30 People and Politics. 3.00 World News. 3.09 News About Britain. 3.15 The World Today. 3.30 A Day in the Life of. 3.50 Recording of the Week. 4.45 Financial News. 4.55 Reflections. 5.00 World News. 5.09 Review of the British Press. 5.15 About Britain. 5.45 The World Today.

All times in GMT

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1 MF 1053kHz/285m or 1089kHz/275m. Radio 2 MF 693kHz/433m or 909kHz/330m. Radio 1/2 VHF 88-91MHz. Radio 3 VHF 90-92.5MHz, MF 1215kHz/247m. Radio 4 LF 200kHz/1500m and VHF 92-95MHz. Greater London Area MF 720kHz/417m. LBC MF 1152kHz/261m, VHF 97.3MHz. Capital MF 1548kHz/194m, VHF 95.8MHz. BBC Radio London MF 1458kHz/206m and VHF 94.9MHz. World Service MF 648kHz/463m.

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

BBC 1

BBC WALES 1.02-1.05pm News 3.53-3.55 News 4.40-5.10 Urdd Eisteddfod 6.05-6.25 Wales Today 10.35-11.25 Week In Week Out 11.25-11.26 News 11.26-1.02am Films: Watermelon Man (Godfrey Cambridge). SCOTLAND 1.00-1.05pm News 4.40-5.00 Joe and Co 6.00-6.25 Reporting Scotland 9.00-9.05 Party election broadcast (Scottish Conservative Party) 10.35-11.05 Beechgrove Garden 11.05-11.10 News 11.10-11.20 On The Campaign Trail 11.20-1.05am Film: False Witness. NORTHERN IRELAND 1.02-1.05pm News 3.53-3.55 News 6.05-6.35 Scene Around Six 6.35-7.00 Election Forum 10.35-11.05 As I Roved Out (Ralph McTell) 11.05-11.10 News 12.55am News. ENGLAND 6.05-6.30pm Regional news magazines 10.35-11.05 East – Weekend. Midlands – Midlands. North – Election Direct Line. North East – Coast to Coast. North West – Changes. South – Jazz at the Park. South West – The Attic Archives. West – Soon Comes Night.

S4C

Starts 2.20 pm Stori Sbri. 2.35 Interval. 3.00 Eisteddfod Genedlaethol Yr Urdd. 3.55 World of Animation. 4.10 Old Country. 4.35 Gardener's Calendar. 5.00 Clwb S4C. 5.05 Pili-Pala. 5.10 Bwganod Ar Ffo. 5.30 Election 500. 6.30 Countdown. 6.55 Gair Yn El Bryd. 7.00 Newyddion Saith. 7.30 Eisteddfod. 8.10 Sion A Sian. 8.40 Y Byd Ar Bedwar: Etholiad '83. 9.15 Cheers. 9.40 Soap. 10.10 Etholiad '83. 10.15 Conservative broadcast. 10.30 Film: Living Apart Together (B A Robertson) Comic rock 'n' roll musical set in Glasgow. 12.30 am Election 500. 1.15 Gair Yn El Bryd. 1.15 Closedown.

HTV WALES

As HTV West except: 11.05 am-11.30 Spiderman. 6.00 pm-7.00 Wales at six. 10.45 A Question of Stars. 11.15 Appointment with a killer. 12.35 am Closedown.

HTV WEST

As London except: 10.30 am Cartoon. 10.40 Struggle Beneath the Sea. 11.05 Sport Billy. 11.30-12.00 3-2-1 Contact. 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.00-2.30 Splendour Falls. 5.15-5.45 Young Doctors. 6.00 News. 6.30-7.00 Happy Days. 9.05-10.05 Shades of Darkness. 10.45 Election Extra. 11.45 Nero Wolfe. 12.45 am Closedown.

TYNE TEES

As London except: Starts 9.25am News. 9.30 Once Upon A Time . . . . Man. 9.55 Flying Kiwi. 10.20 Flintstone Frolics. 10.45-11.30 Wilderness Alive. 1.20pm-1.30 News and Lookaround. 2.00-2.30 Paramount Shorts. 5.15-5.45 Joanie Loves Chachi. 6.00 Ecology Party Broadcast. 6.07 News. 6.02 Make Me Laugh. 6.30-7.00 Northern Life. 9.05-10.05 Shades of Darkness. 10.47 Friday Live. 12.20am Portrait of a Legend: Roy Orbison. 12.50 Three's Company. 12.55 Closedown.

BORDER

As London except: 10.30am Larry the Lamb. 10.40 Struggle Beneath the Sea. 11.05-11.30 Fangface. 1.20pm-1.30 News. 2.00-2.30 Benson. 6.00 Ecology Party broadcast. 6.05 Lookaround. 6.30-7.00 Bygones. 9.05-10.05 Shades of Darkness. 10.45 Lookaround Special. 11.15 Film: One Deadly Owner. Young model buys a haunted Rolls-Royce. 12.35am News. 12.38 Closedown.

ULSTER

As London except: 10.30am Wonderful World of Professor Kitzel. 10.35 Flying Kiwi. 11.00 Cartoon. 11.05 Big Country. 11.30-12.00 Survival. 1.20pm-1.30 Lunchtime. 6.00 Ecology Party Broadcast. 6.05 Good Evening Ulster. 6.20 Ulster Decides. 6.30-7.00 Two Of Us. 9.05-10.05 Shades of Darkness. 10.45 Witness. 10.50 Film: Killer in Every Corner. Students become the unwitting subjects of experiments by a criminal psychologist. 12.10am News, closedown.

ANGLIA

As London except: 10.30am Cartoon. 10.40-11.30 Tarzan. 1.20pm-1.30 News. 2.00-2.30 Two of Us. 5.15-5.45 One of the Boys. 6.00 Ecology Party Broadcst. 6.05-7.00 About Anglia. 9.05-10.05 Shades of Darkness. 10.45 Campaign Special. 11.25 9 to 5. 11.55 Film: Desperate Characters (Shirley MacLaine) Day in the life of a couple trapped in New York's decaying east side. 1.30am Jancis Harvey Sings, Closedown.

TSW

As London except: 10.30am Mountain Habitat. 10.40-11.30 It's a Wonderful World. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.00-2.30 Airplanes, Men and Memories. 5.15-5.45 Emmerdale Farm. 6.05 Today South West. 6.30-7.00 What's Ahead. 9.05-10.05 Lou Grant. 10.45 Musical Special. 12.40am Postscript. 12.46 Closedown.

GRAMPIAN

As London except: Starts 9.25am-9.30 First Thing. 10.30 Cartoon. 10.40-11.30 Space 1999. 1.20pm-1.30 News. 2.00-2.30 Preview. 6.00 North Tonight. 6.30-7.00 Diff'rent Strokes. 9.05-10.05 Shades of Darkness. 10.45 Film: Doomwatch (Ian Bannen) Islanders hiding a terrible secret. 12.15am News. 12.20 Closedown.

CENTRAL

As London except: 9.30 am Wattoo, Wattoo. 9.35 Crazy World of Sport. 10.00 This is Your Museum Speaking. 10.10-12.00 Film: Melba (Patrice Munsel). Life story of opera singer Dame Nellie Melba. 1.20pm News. 1.30 Three Little Words. 2.00-2.30 Superstar Profile – Roger Moore. 6.00-7.00 News. 9.05-10.05 Shades of Darkness. 10.45 Hill Street Blues. 11.45 News. 11.50 Film: Neither the Sea nor the Sand – Susan Hampshire. Love and tragedy on the holiday island of Jersey. 1.40 am Closedown.

TVS

As London except: 10.30am Cartoon. 10.40-11.30 Voyage to the Bottom of the Sea. 1.20pm-1.30 News. 2.00-2.30 Two of Us. 6.00 Ecology Party Broadcast. 6.05 Coast to Coast. 6.30-7.00 Natives are Getting Restless. 9.05-10.05 Shades of Darkness. 10.45 The South Decides. 11.45 Film: Haunted and the Haunted. Wife tries to drive her mother-in-law mad. 1.05am Company. Closedown.

GRANADA

As London except: 10.30am Larry the Lamb. 10.40 Spirit of Malcolm Miller. 11.25-11.30 Bubblies. 1.20pm-1.30 Granada Reports. 2.00-2.30 Paint Along With Nancy. 5.15-5.45 Beverly Hillbilles. 6.00 Ecology Party Broadcast. 6.05 Flying Start. 6.35-7.00 Granada Reports. 9.05-10.05 Shades of Darkness. 10.45 9 to 5. 11.15 Friday Night. 11.55 Film: Honour Thy Father (Joe Bologna) Rise and fall of a Mafia family. 1.40am Closedown.

YORKSHIRE

As London except: 10.30am Our Incredible World. 10.50 Children of Samoa. 11.10-11.30 Welcome Back Kotter. 1.20pm-1.30 News. 2.00-2.30 Full Life: Lord Elwyn-Johns. 6.00 Ecology Party Broadcast. 6.05 Calendar and Sport. 6.30-7.00 Calendar Election Extra. 9.05-10.05 Shades of Darkness. 10.45 Snooker. 11.30 Darkroom. 12.30am Closedown.

SCOTTISH

As London except: 10.30 am Chilcoot Trail. 10.55 Dance Goes On. 11.45-12.00 Barney Google. 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.00-2.30 Holding The Fort. 5.15-5.45 Emmerdale Farm. 6.00 Scotland Today. 6.30-7.00 Benson. 9.05-10.05 Shades of Darkness. 10.45 Ways and Means. 11.15 9 to 5. 11.50 City of Angels. 12.45 am Closedown.

WHAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN. † Stereo. ★Black and white. (r) Repeat.

Averell Harriman helps to bridge Cold War divide

From Richard Owen, Moscow

Mr Yuri Andropov, the Soviet party leader, yesterday met Mr Averell Harriman, the veteran American Kremlin-watcher, and told him the Soviet Union was "ready and interested in a joint search" for initiatives with the United States which would make the present situation easier. The meeting lasted an hour and 20 minutes.

Mr Harriman later addressed a packed news conference and said he had found Mr Andropov "cordial, blunt and frank", with an impressive grasp of affairs.

Mr Harriman's British-born wife, the former Mrs Randolph Churchill, sat beside him looking remarkably like Mrs Margaret Thatcher in a sky-blue dress and pearls. It must have given Mr Andropov quite a turn. Mrs Harriman said she found the Soviet leader vigorous, sunburnt and taller than she had expected, with a good sense of humour.

It was extraordinary to think the world was waiting on the word of a frail but spry man of 91 who had first come to Russia as a boy in 1899. But Mr Harriman is no ordinary American: he was Ambassador to Moscow during the Second World War, and has now met every Soviet leader since Stalin.

Since the Russians and Americans are not talking to each other nowadays they have to use intermediaries, and Mr Harriman's mission to Moscow is part of an attempt by the Kremlin and the White House to talk across the barriers on confrontation.

Mr Harriman said he was not a "carrier of messages", but admitted he had met Mr George Shultz, the American Secretary of State, before leaving Washington.

At the meeting with Mr Andropov, attended only be Mrs Harriman, an Andropov aide and an interpreter, the Soviet leader had been "frank in expressing concern about the state of relations between us".

Mr Andropov then expressed "the sincere and fervent desire of the Soviet Union" to develop normal relations with America n the best traditions of the past.

Mr Harriman was asked if he could be more specific about what he thought constituted a normal relationship. With the long experience of diplomacy and a governorship behind him, Mr Harriman said he had agreed wit Mr Andropov that the thing to do was to start with solvable problems, not insoluble ones. Did the soluble questions include arms control? Mr Harriman would not be drawn.

Mr Andropov has met no senior American official since he talked to Mr George Bush, the Vice-President, at the funeral of President Brezhnev in Moscow last November. Did Mr Harriman think this meant Soviet-American relations had sunk to their lowest level since the Cold War. He pondered this, looking down the avenue of the years to Stalin and beyond, and replied with a grin that it was "not clear to me when the Cold War started and when it ended".

Mr Harriman said he had been to Russia five times in the 1970s, and would come again if it helped to improve matters. Mrs Harriman said that was enough questions for now, but Mr Harriman, though a good 20 years older than most members of the geriatric Soviet Politburo, was happy to talk about the "good times" between Moscow and Washington in the past and his hopes that they might return.

● WASHINGTON: Dr Helmut Kohl, the West German Chancellor, is to explore in Moscow next month the possibility of a summit meeting between President Reagan and Mr Andropov, Nicholas Ashford writes.

According to West German sources, Dr Kohl raised the issue during private talks with Mr Reagan during the Williamsburg summit earlier this week.

Twin-track policy, page 6
Letters, page 15


Averell Harriman, aged 91, who has met every Soviet leader since Stalin.


The 'vicious' game – but to competitors in the Mateus inter-county croquet championships at Southwick Park, Sussex, it is a matter requiring down-to-earth exactitude and getting a grip on the problem. Photographs: Brian Harris.







Healey condemned for Falklands outburst

Continued from page 1

sinking of the Argentine cruiser Belgrano on May 4 last year.

But at a press conference largely devoted to the Belgrano sinking, Mrs Thatcher rejected the request out of hand. She repeated that the cruiser has been sunk because it posed a threat to the task force, in spite of the fact that it was six hours' sailing time from striking distance. "Six hours is a danger," she said.

"I am greatly relieved that the question you are not asking me today is how is it one of our aircraft carriers was sunk, and then, my goodness me, there would have been not only an inquiry, but grief on a scale we have not contemplated."

● Mr Michael Foot last night called for an inquiry into the sinking of the Belgrano but was careful to distance himself from Mr Healey's allegation that Mrs

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Thatcher was "glorifying in slaughter" (David Felton writes).

Mr Foot said that the Belgrano should be treated as an issue on its own, separate from the government's conduct during the War. Asked as he toured Bristol yesterday whether he agreed with Mr Healey, Mr Foot said he could understand why feelings ran so high when 500 of the 6,000 merchant seamen who volunteered for Falklands duty were now on the dole.

● The next government should hold negotiations over the sovereignty of the Faulkland Islands, Dr David Owen, Alliance foreign affairs spokesman, said yesterday (Barrie Clement writes).

The Alliance would explore the possibility of a United Nations administration, he told a press conference in the constituency of Mrs Shirley Williams at Crosby, near Liverpool.

He said Britain should start talks with Latin American countries together with the United States. The Organization of American States could provide a peace keeping force.

"The initiative would depend on a guarantee that the Argentines would not seek to take over the islands again," he said. Mrs Thatcher is mistaken in the view that the British forces went there to ensure the Union Jack would fly over the islands in perpetuity. They went there to resist armed aggression."

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Alliance gains six points

Continued from page 1

"Even I ws astonished that the Alliance, which claims integrity and purity as personified by Mr Jenkins and Mr Steel individually should have gone in for this exercise today," he said.

"It is not concerned with statistical judgment. It is what is known in the advertising trade and the seedy end of marketing as 'a hype', what you are doing is making extravagant claims about the position in the hope that some gullible fool will be deceived into believing them.

"That seems a deeply disreputable way of fighting an election."

Mr Hattersley said there was one poll, "pushed by Jenkins and Steel", which had a sample of little more then 500 people who were approached by telephone.

Yet Labour Party polls showed that among the big selection of the population which did not have a telephone the Labour Party had a lead of 14 per cent.

"A poll which excludes contact with the telephone-less section of the community, a group of people whose social position inevitabley makes them strongly Labour, is not likely to give an honest result," Mr Hattersley said.

If one looked at the record of this poll, on which the Alliance leaders were basing their claims, it had consistently given the Alliance a 3 or 4 per cent lead, and had consistently reduced the position of the Labour Party. Mr Hattersley said he was sure that the Alliance leaders would continue to make these false claims, but it was a disreputable way of campaigning.

To be fair, Mr David Steel, at the Alliance press conference earlier, had been less than enthusiastic about the poll taken for TV-AM by Audience Selection, which gathers opinion by telephone calls.

He was asked to comment on the validity of a poll taken on such a small sample. "All polls are suspect because they are all taken on small samples," Mr Steel said. "All they do, reliably, is to indicate a trend.

"I expected the trend to be upwards and the trend has turned up. It is going to continue going up.

"We represent the same sort of values that the Labour Party once stood for, and people are coming over to us for that reason."

Rembrandt offer fuels anger in art world

By Frances Gibb

Controversy over the threat to the British heritage posed by the huge wealth of American museums was fired yesterday with the disclosure of an offer for one of the country's most valued paintings, a Rembrandt portrait (below) estimated to be worth £3.5m.

The owner of the work, which is on loan to the National Museum of Wales, Cardiff, was approached about selling by Mr Marshall Spink, a London dealer, acting as an agent.

Last week Lord Normanby, chairman of the National Art-Collections Fund, cited the case of a recent offer on behalf of an American museum of £5.5m for a painting valued in at £3.5m in this country.

British museums, and heritage bodies, were powerless to stop the export of works in the face of such "Getty-enhanced offers," he said referring to the wealth of the J. Paul Getty museum, Malibu.

The Rembrandt painting, a life-size portrait signed and inscribed 1657, of Catharina Hooghsaet, a member of a Protestant sect called the Mennonites, belongs to Lady Janet Douglas Pennant, heiress of much of the Penrhyn estate. It is one of the 20 most important paintings in the country.

Her husband Mr John Douglas Pennant confirmed they had been approached about selling but said they had no intention of doing so.



THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

The Duke of Edinburgh opens the Field Studies Centre of Deeside Naturalists Society, Connah's Quay, Clwyd, 9.50; as Patron, visits the headquarters of British Association for Shooting and Conservation, Rossett, Clwyd, 10.30.

The Prince of Wales, Colonel-in-Chief, The Parachute Regiment, presents new Colours to the 10th (V) Battalion The Parachute Regiment, Duke of York's Headquarters, London, 10.

Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother has luncheon at University College London, to mark its 150th anniversary, 12.30.

Princess Margaret visits the Cathedral at Bury St Edmunds, and the Theatre Royal, 11.30.

The Duke of Gloucester, flies to Ottawa, to attend centenary celebrations of the St John Ambulance in Canada, departs Northolt, 12.

The Duchess of Gloucester opens Nordoff-Robins Nusic Therapy Centre, Leighton Place, London, 1:50; as Colonel-in-Chief, Royal Army Educational Corps, attends a Ladies' Dinner, Wilton Park, Beaconsfield, Buckinghamshire, 7.20.

The Duke of Kent attends the centenary dinner of the Fédération Britannique des Comités de l'Alliance Française, Royal Garden Hotel, London, 8.20.

Prince and Princess Michael of Kent attend Combined Cadet Force Trooping the Colour, Eton College, 9.30pm.

Last chance to see

Edinburgh Guild of Weavers, Spinners and Dyers exhibition, City Arts Centre, Market Street, Edinburgh; Mon to Sat 10 to 5, closed Sun (ends tomorrow).

Etchings by Stephen Whittle and original prints from Ryal Academy Graphics, Timaeus Gallery, 2a Salisbury Road, Moseley, Birmingham; Mon to Fri 10 to 4, Wed 10 to 7.30, closed Sat & Sun (ends today).

Works by Kevin Harley and Andrew Holmes, and Handsworth from Inside: Photographs by Vanley Burke, Ikon Gallery, 58-72 John Bright Street, Birmingham; Tues to Sat 10 to 6, closed Sun (ends tomorrow).

Landscape in Britain 1850-1950, City Museum and Art Gallery, Queen's Road, Bristol; Mon to Sat 10 to 5, closed Sun (ends tomorrow).

Six Attitudes, Six Approaches to Painting, City Museum and Art Gallery, Priestgate, Peterborough; Tues to Sat, closed Sun & Mon (ends tomorrow).

Paintings by Aldridge Haddock, Edward Mayor Gallery, 265 Glossop Road, Sheffield; Mon to Sat 10 to 5, closed Sun (ends today).

Reading Guild of Artists annual exhibition, Museum and Art Gallery, Blagrave Street, Reading Mon Fri 10 to 5.30, Sat 10 to 5, closed Sun, (ends tomorrow).

Screenprints by Kenneth Leech, Falmouth Art Gallery, Municipal Buildings, Falmouth; Mon 6 Fri 10 to 1 & 2 to 4.30, closed Sat & Sun, (ends today).

Talks, lectures

The Discovery of Porcelain, by J. Calder, Royal Scottish Museum, Chambers Street, Edinburgh, 11.

Unhistoric Egypt: Oxford's Debt to Flinders Petrie, by Helen Whitehouse, Ruskin Lecture Theatre, Ashmolean Museum, Beaumont Street, Oxford, 5.

Music

Belfast Promenade Concerts: Ulster Hall, Bedford Street, Belfast, 7.30 (from today until June 11).

Organ recital, Rochester Cathedral, 12.45.

Oban Festival of Music: piano recital by Iris Loveridge, St John's Cathedral, Oban, 8.15.

Anniversaries

Births: James Hutton, naturalist and geologist, Edinburgh, 1726; Richard Cobden, Midhurst, Surrey, 1804; George V (reigned 1910-36) London, 1865; Raoul Dufy, Le Havre, France, 1877. Deaths: William Harvey, London, 1657; Georges Bizet, Bougival, France, 1875; Samuel Plimsoll, Folkestone, 1898; Franz Kafka, Kierling, Austria, 1924.

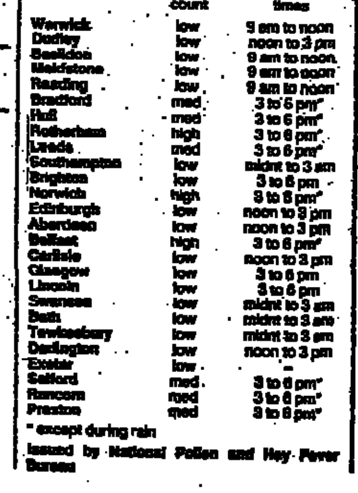
The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,146

This puzzle, used at the Glasgow regional final of the Collins Dictionaries Times Crossword Championship, was solved within 30 minutes by 35 per cent of the finalists.

ACROSS
1 Perhaps, sir, it could be cure (with 24) (6, 6).
9 Support large numbers of sappers (9).
10 Cold house brings one endless melancholy (5).
11 Exam for Alexander and Alfred? (6).
12 Nothing in extra enclosure is exposed (4, 4).
13 Princess who fell for neat trick, by Zeus! (6).
15 Scottish speciality contains meat for alfresco meal (8).
18 Powerful feller observed on the links (5-3).
19 Plant growing wild in porch, I see (6).
21 Too particular, finding nothing right in merchant's city (8).
23 Insect about to secrete sort of acid (6).
26 Skin is damaged by knife first (5).
27 Supreme horse from Brazilian state (9).
28 Novel student achieved quick result from his experiment (12).

DOWN
1 Craft of religious scoundrel (7).
2 Lift to take to ground level with one in (5).
3 The point of this device may not be apparent (6-3).
4 Not all the player has to learn? (4).
5 Puck seen flying over this polar area? (3-5).
6 Rotter and I going in opposite directions (5).
7 A Liberal leader SDP has troubled recklessly (8).
8 Born overweight baby may show resilience (6).
14 Sergeant ordered to give detective chemicals (8).
16 Day commemorating saint's ending of war (9).
17 Thrown by the Duchess's cook (as cheeky Tinker Bell might do) (8).
18 Best denied to beggars, they say (6).
20 Laconic skill shown in bridge (7).
22 Upset about child – it's a big blow (5).
24 A refusal to recognize English accent (5).
25 Berliner's odd bits of cheese (4).

Solution of Puzzle No 16,145



Prize Crossword in The Times tomorrow

CONCISE CROSSWORD PAGE 12

The pound

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	1.89	1.80
Austria Sch	29.65	27.95
Belgium Fr	83.75	79.25
Canada $	2.02	1.93
Denmark Kr	15.05	14.30
Finland Mkk	9.15	8.65
France Fr	12.58	11.98
Germany DM	4.19	3.98
Greece Dr	135.00	128.00
Hongkong $	11.86	11.24
Ireland Pt	1.33	1.26
Italy Lira	2470.00	2350.00
Japan Yen	398.00	378.00
Netherlands Gld	4.71	4.48
Norway Kr	11.85	11.25
Portugal Esc	167.00	153.00
South Africa Rd	2.14	1.98
Spain Pta	224.00	213.00
Sweden Kr	12.53	11.90
Switzerland Fr	3.46	3.29
USA $	1.64	1.58
Yugoslavia Dnr	138.00	131.00

Rates for small denomination bank notes only, as supplied by Barclays Bank International Ltd. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.

Retail Price Index: 332.5.

London: The *FT* Index closed down 5.9 at 698.7.

Food prices

Fish supplies have been hit by recent bad weather, which means increases of up to 15p a lb for popular varieties such as cod, plaice and haddock in some areas.

Home-produced lamb ranges from £1.60 to £2.20 a lb for whole leg; whole shoulder from 99-158p a lb. New Zealand lamb prices are stable; Sainsbury's are offering whole leg at £1.28 a lb and shoulder at 76p a lb. Dewhurst have whole lambs for the freezer at 69p a lb, and half lamb cuts at 73p. Some beef prices have increased, but Sainsbury's have reduced their back and top rib to £1.38 a lb, and Presto are selling boneless brisket at £1.28. Pork prices remain steady, with whole leg ranging from 76-110p a lb, boneless shoulder 88-124p and loin chops £1.05-£1.34.

Supplies of salad ingredients are good and prices stable. English cos lettuce 26 to 34p, depending on size. Try Radichiochi – crisp red Italian lettuce with a slightly bitter chicory flavour – to enhance the appearance and taste of your salad. English and Dutch cucumbers are 30-50p each. Beef tomatoes are 35-65p a lb, and superb hothouse tomatoes 42-60p a lb. English asparagus £1.40-£2.20, depending on grade. The best potatoes are Jersey royals at 22-35p a lb and Brittany Prince at 17-20p.

Top films

Top box-office films in London

1 (1) Tootsie
2 (7) Local Hero
3 (3) Sophie's Choice
4 (2) Friday the 13th Part III
5 (5) Gandhi
6 (4) Educating Rita
7 (8) Heat and Dust
8 (6) Android
9 (-) The Sting II
10 (-) An Officer and a Gentleman

The top five in the provinces

1 Tootsie
2 The Dark Crystal
3 Friday the 13th Part III
4 XTRO
5 Local Hero

Compiled by Screen International

Roads

London and South-east: Demonstration march from Brent town hall to Southall; via Wembley High Street, Bridgewater Road, Western Avenue, Uxbridge Road, Bridge Road, Southall, starting after morning rush hour. A3220: Roadworks at Redcliff Gardens, Kensington; delays for southbound traffic. A2: Lane closures on Boughton by-pass, Kent.

Midlands and East Anglia: M1: Lane closures at junction 19 (M6). Also at junction 16 (Northampton). A11: Temporary lights between Besthorpe and Attleborough, Norfolk.

North: A49: Southbound lane closures on Forest Road, Tarporley, Cheshire. M6: Lane closures between junctions 25 (A49 Wigan) and 27 (A5209, Wigan/Standish), Greater Manchester.

Wales and West: A5: Temporary lights at Upper Bangor, on Holyhead to Betws-y-coed road, Gwynedd. Royal Bath and West Show, Shepton Mallet: heavy traffic on A37, A361 and A371. Golf tournament, Chepstow, Gwent; heavy traffic on A48 and A466.

Scotland: Amateur golf championships, Turnberry, Strathclyde: heavy traffic on A77 and A719. A72: Single lane traffic W of Peebles. A90: Lane closures on Forth road bridge.

Information supplied by the AA.

The papers

Mr Denis Healey's "savage attack on the Prime Minister over the Falklands has exposed him as nasty, hypocritical and stupid," says the Daily Star. He owes her, the nation and its fighting men an apology, the paper adds.

Mr Healey's "slanderous attack" can only damage his party's election prospects, says The Sun. "Mrs Thatcher's deeply felt outrage ... will surely be echoed by the people."

"The unemployment figures to be published today will be as genuine as a fourpenny Rembrandt", says the Daily Mirror. By counting only those who claim unemployment benefit instead of those registered as being out of work, Mr Tebbit has reduced the total by over one million.

Pollen forecast

	Pollen count	Peak times
Warwick	low	9 am to noon
Dudley	low	noon to 3 pm
Basildon	low	9 am to noon
Maidstone	low	9 am to noon
Reading	low	9 am to noon
Bradford	med	3 to 6 pm*
Hull	med	3 to 6 pm*
Rotherham	high	3 to 6 pm*
Leeds	med	3 to 6 pm*
Southampton	low	midnt to 3 am
Brighton	low	3 to 6 pm
Norwich	high	3 to 6 pm*
Edinburgh	low	noon to 3 pm
Aberdeen	low	noon to 3 pm
Belfast	high	3 to 6 pm*
Carlisle	low	noon to 3 pm
Glasgow	low	3 to 6 pm
Lincoln	low	3 to 6 pm
Swansea	low	midnt to 3 am
Bath	low	midnt to 3 am
Tewkesbury	low	midnt to 3 am
Darlington	low	noon to 3 pm
Exeter	low	–
Salford	med	3 to 6 pm*
Runcorn	med	3 to 6 pm*
Preston	med	3 to 6 pm*

* except during rain

Issued by National Pollen and Hay Fever Bureau

Weather forecast

Troughs of low pressure will cross England and Wales from SW.

6am to midnight

London, SE, Central S, NW England, Midlands, N Wales: Cloudy, rain spreading from SW: wind SE to E, Light or moderate; max temp 17 to 19C (63 to 66F).

East Anglia, E, central N England: Sunny after clearance of early mist and fog patches, becoming cloudy with some rain later; wind variable, light, becoming SE, moderate; max temp 17 to 19C (63 to 66F).

Channel Islands, SW England, S Wales: Rain, some heavy, clearer later with showers; wind SE to S, moderate; max temp 16 to 18C (61 to 64).

Lake District, Isle of Man, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Argyll, Northern Ireland: Sunny intervals and scattered showers; wind E to NE light or moderate; max temps 15 to 17C (58 to 63F).

NE England, Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee: Mostly cloudy and misty, perhaps some drizzle in places at first, brighter later; wind variable, light, max temp, 14 to 16C (57 to 61F).

Aberdeen, Central Highlands, Moray Firth, NE, NW Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: Dry, sunny periods after clearance of mist and fog patches; wind NE light or moderate; max temp 12 to 14C (54 to 57F).

Outlook for the Weekend: Becoming mainly dry in N and E; thundery showers later in SW; warm generally.

SEA PASSAGES: S North Sea, Strait of Dover: Wind mainly S, light; sea smooth. *English Channel (E):* Wind S, moderate; sea slight. St George's Channel: Wind SE, moderate or fresh; sea slight or moderate. Irish Sea: Wind SE fresh; sea moderate.

Sun rises: 4.48 am Sun sets: 9.10 pm
Moon rises: 2.03 am Moon sets: 11.50 am
Last quarter: 10.07 pm.

Lighting-up time

London 9.40 pm to 4.17 am
Bristol 9.49 pm to 4.27 am
Edinburgh 10.19 pm to 4.03 am
Manchester 9.59 pm to 4.15 am
Penzance 9.54 pm to 4.46 am

Yesterday

Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun.

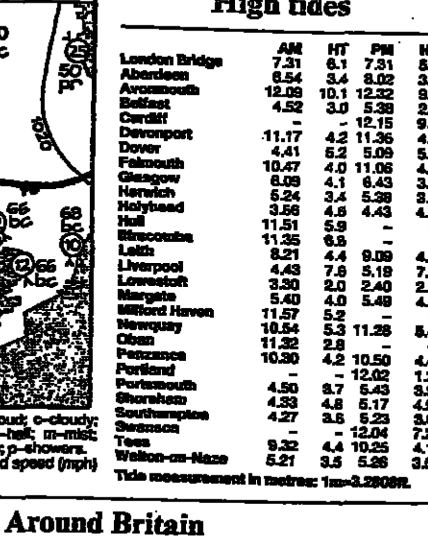
		C	F			C	F
Belfast	f	15	59	Guernsey			
Birmingham	f	17	63	Inverness	r	8	46
Blackpool	c	15	59	Jersey	s	17	63
Bristol	c	13	55	London	f	16	61
Cardiff	f	15	59	Manchester	c	17	63
Edinburgh	c	9	48	Newcastle	c	11	52
Glasgow	r	11	52	Ronaldsway	c	11	52

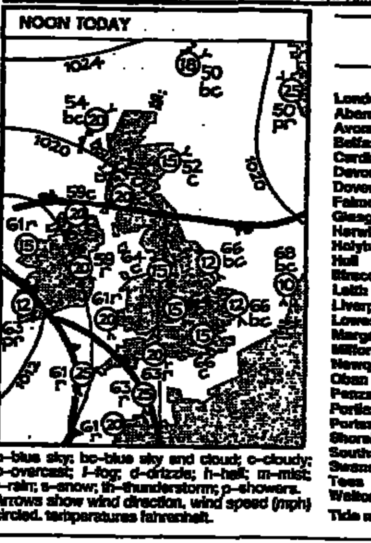
London

Yesterday: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 18C (64F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 13C (55F). Humidity: 6 pm, 88 per cent. Rain: 24hr to 6 pm, 0.11in. Sun: 24hr to 6 pm, 5.3 hr. Bar, mean sea level, 6 pm, 1017.1 millibars rising. 1,000 millibars = 29.53 in.

Highest and lowest

Yesterday: Highest day temp: Gorleston on Sea, 19C (66F); lowest day max: Aviemore, 7C (45F); highest rainfall: St Andrews, 1.06in; highest sunshine: Swanage 10.0hr.





b–blue sky; bc–blue sky and cloud; c–cloudy; o–overcast; f–fog; d–drizzle; h–hail; m–mist; r–rain; s–snow; th–thunderstorm; p–showers. Arrows show wind direction, wind speed (mph) circled. temperatures fahrenheit.

High tides

	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	7.31	6.1	7.31	5.9
Aberdeen	6.54	3.4	8.02	3.2
Avonmouth	12.09	10.1	12.32	9.8
Belfast	4.52	3.0	5.39	2.8
Cardiff	–	–	12.15	9.1
Devonport	11.17	4.2	11.36	4.4
Dover	4.41	5.2	5.09	5.4
Falmouth	10.47	4.0	11.06	4.2
Glasgow	6.09	4.1	6.43	3.8
Harwich	5.24	3.4	5.38	3.5
Holyhead	3.56	4.6	4.43	4.2
Hull	11.51	5.9	–	–
Ilfracombe	11.35	6.8	–	–
Leith	8.21	4.4	9.09	4.3
Liverpool	4.43	7.6	5.19	7.2
Lowestoft	3.30	2.0	2.40	2.2
Margate	5.40	4.0	5.49	4.0
Milford Haven	11.57	5.2	–	–
Newquay	10.54	5.3	11.28	5.4
Oban	11.32	2.8	–	–
Penzance	10.30	4.2	10.50	4.4
Portland	–	–	12.02	1.2
Portsmouth	4.50	3.7	5.43	3.9
Shoreham	4.33	4.8	5.17	4.9
Southampton	4.27	3.6	5.23	3.6
Swansea	–	–	12.04	7.2
Tees	9.32	4.4	10.25	4.1
Walton-on-Naze	5.21	3.5	5.26	3.6

Tide measurement in metres: 1m=3.2808ft.

Around Britain

	Sun hr	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
St Andrews	–	1.06	8	46	Rain
Scarboro	2.6	.02	16	61	Fog
Bridlington	3.7	.18	16	61	Thunder
Cromer	2.2	.05	18	64	Thunder
Lowestoft	3.4	.09	17	63	Thunder
Clacton	6.0	–	18	64	Sunny
Margate					
Folkestone	6.9	.27	16	61	Bright
Hastings	8.0	.22	16	61	Sunny
Eastbourne	8.5	.07	17	63	Showers
Worthing	8.1	.06	15	59	Bright
Littlehampton	8.1	.02	16	61	Sunny
Bognor R	9.4	.02	15	59	Sunny
Southsea	8.5	.01	16	61	Bright
Shanklin	9.2	.05	15	59	Bright
Bournemouth	9.0	.08	16	61	Bright
Poole	7.6	.13	17	63	Bright
Weymouth	8.1	.03	15	59	Sunny
Exmouth	6.7	.13	17	63	Sunny
Torquay	8.9	.17	17	63	Sunny
Falmouth	7.3	.12	16	61	Sunny
Penzance	7.9	.05	17	63	Sunny
Jersey	9.1	–	18	64	Sunny

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Guernsey	9.7	.10	17	63	Sunny
Scilly Isles					
Newquay	7.6	.08	16	61	Bright
Ilfracombe					
Tenby	6.8	–	15	59	Sunny
Southport	2.4	.23	16	61	Cloudy
Morecambe	1.9	.42	15	59	Bright
Douglas	1.3	.16	13	55	Cloudy
B'ham (Airpt)	5.8	.26	17	63	Thunder
Bristol (Ctrl)	4.8	.11	16	61	Showers
Cardiff (Ctrl)	6.3	.02	17	63	Showers
Anglesey	2.7	.03	14	57	Bright
B'pool (Airpt)	1.8	.16	16	61	Showers
Manchester	3.4	.52	17	63	Thunder
Nottingham	4.5	.07	19	66	Thunder
N'cstl-n-Tyne	–	.07	12	54	Rain
Eskdalemuir	–	.23	9	48	Drizzle
Glasgow	–	.59	10	50	Rain
Tiree	–	.26	10	50	Rain
Stornoway	9.0	–	10	50	Sunny
Kinloss	–	.28	9	48	Rain
Edinburgh	–	.86	10	50	Rain
Aldergrove	2.2	.12	16	61	Cloudy

Abroad

MIDDAY: c, cloud; f, fair; fg, fog; r, rain; s, sun; th, thunder.

		C	F
Ajaccio	f	24	75
Akrotiri	s	28	82
Alexandria*	f	27	81
Algiers	s	24	75
Amsterdam	f	15	59
Athens	f	29	84
Bahrain*	s	36	97
Barbados*	s	30	86
Barcelona	s	21	70
Beirut	f	25	77
Belgrade	s	29	84
Berlin	c	19	66
Bermuda			
Biarritz	s	24	75
Boulogne	f	13	55
Bordeaux	s	22	72
Brussels	f	18	64
Budapest	f	29	84
Buen Aires*	f	13	55
Cairo	s	31	88
Cape Tn	c	15	59
C'blanca			
Chicago			
Cologne	f	21	70

		C	F
Copenhagn	f	19	66
Corfu	s	27	81
Dallas*	c	21	70
Dublin	c	13	55
Dubrovnik		26	79
Faro	s	22	72
Florence	s	28	82
Frankfurt	s	19	66
Funchal	s	21	70
Geneva	f	21	70
Gibraltar	s	22	72
Helsinki	c	15	59
Hongkong	c	30	86
Innsbruck	f	23	73
Istanbul	s	25	77
Jiddah	s	35	95
Jo'burg	s	20	68
Karachi	c	33	91
Las Palmas	f	22	72
Lisbon	s	21	70
Locarno	f	23	73
L Angeles*	c	19	66
Luxembg	f	17	63
Madrid	s	23	73

		C	F
Majorca	s	24	75
Malaga	s	22	72
Malta	s	27	81
Melbourne	c	14	57
Mexico C*	s	24	75
Miami*	f	30	86
Milan	s	23	73
Montreal*	c	15	59
Moscow*	f	19	66
Munich	s	25	77
Nairobi*	s	25	77
Naples	s	24	75
New Delhi	s	39	102
New York*	f	23	73
Nice	s	22	72
Oslo	r	11	52
Ottawa			
Paris	f	18	64
Peking	s	33	91
Perth	r	16	61
Prague	f	23	73
Reykjavik	r	5	41
Rhodes	s	26	79
Riyadh	c	39	102

		C	F
Rio de Jan*	f	23	73
Rome	s	26	79
Salzburg	c	22	72
Sao Paulo*	c	21	70
S Francisco*	f	15	59
Santiago*	f	12	54
Seoul	s	29	84
Singapore	f	22	72
Stockholm	c	12	54
Strasbourg	f	22	72
Sydney	f	15	59
Tangier*	c	21	70
Tel Aviv	f	26	79
Tenerife	s	22	72
Tokyo	s	25	77
Toronto*	c	14	57
Tunis*	s	22	72
Valencia	s	24	75
Vancouver*	r	14	57
Venice	s	26	79
Vienna	s	27	81
Warsaw	s	25	[illegible]
Washington*	c	22	72
Zurich	f	19	66

* denotes Wednesday's figures are latest available

هكذا من الاصل